

# Sheep and Goat Raiser

THE RANCHMAN'S MAGAZINE

20c

DECEMBER  
1955



*Make this a Wool Christmas*



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E. S. CHERRY

AND MANY OTHER ARTICLES  
OF LASTING INTEREST



## Clostridium Chauvei-Septicus Pasteurella Bacterin

CROCKETT "Triple Bacterin" for Three-Way Protection  
against

Blackleg – Malignant Edema – Hemorrhagic Septicemia

The same degree of immunity against Blackleg and Malignant Edema as is obtained with the Clostridium Chauvei-Septicus Bacterin, PLUS the additional usual protection against Hemorrhagic Septicemia (shipping fever) as is obtained with the use of Hemorrhagic Septicemia

Bacterin – all combined in one convenient dose of 10cc.

Ask for and insist upon CROCKETT "Triple Bacterin." If your dealer cannot supply you, write us direct, giving your dealer's name.

### Merry Christmas -- Everybody!



"PROFIT WITH CROCKETT"

CROCKETT LABORATORIES COMPANY, 147 Ralph St., San Antonio, Texas—U.S. Veterinary License No. 212

R. E. Taylor, Jr., Gen. Mgr.

## CROCKETT LABORATORIES CO.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

# Thinking Producers Say

Yes, quite a number of sheep producers say that all of the sheep raisers should send their sheep and lambs to "Shirley" to sell because—

They say there are several reasons for them to do so—one reason being: Shirley and his assistants are fully capable of giving good service and make good sales—another reason being when you ask them for information about market, prospects and other facts they will tell you what they really think is best for you regardless of whether it means a commission for the firm or not, and that is their only source of income—another reason being that they have found no other firm that has put forth much effort except "Shirley" in behalf of the sheep industry — in their part played in fight with OPS to remove their drastic kind of grading and the efforts made and the money spent by "Shirley" in promoting lamb eating by Texans.

Several sheep producers give "Shirley" a lot of credit for this promotion work which has enabled the lamb market to be several cents higher on fat lambs this fall in Texas over what it would have been without this promotion effort—as it is Texans who are eating the fat lambs coming to market now and the packers do not have to ship them to the north and east to sell in competition with the fat lambs coming from the northwestern U.S.A.

Some people say that we put forth too much effort on lamb eating and fail on beef and pork—we deny this because we encourage this too, but it is almost a natural thing for most people to eat beef and pork—we all of the "Shirley Com. Co." do this daily, but we think that a meal or two of lamb each week helps keep everyone healthy. If Clint asks you have a meal with him—you had better order beef, pork or lamb or you may have to pick up your own ticket.

On the yards we do not just specialize in selling sheep and lambs—we have a real capable sales force in the cattle, calf and hog yards. Many of our good sheep customers have found this out by putting "Shirley" on their cattle and hog waybills, too.

We appreciate these customers' ideas and reasons why we should sell all of the sheep—but we realize that this is impossible—we only want to sell YOURS—and this goes on your cattle and hogs, too.

If you haven't yet—do so next time—put "Shirley" on your waybill and you will see why "Shirley" sells more shipments of cattle, calves, hogs and sheep than any firm—and why 10,000 livestock men and women yearly say

## "Shirley's Sales Service Still Satisfies"

If you are unable to get in touch with Clint at night, call his assistant,  
Tom Davis, VA-0120, and Tom will give you the information you want.

**Shirley**  
LIVE STOCK  
COMMISSION CO  
FORT WORTH

CLINT SHIRLEY — Sheep  
NITE — MA-3432

TOM DAVIS — Sheep Yards  
NITE — VA-0120

HUTTON COX — Sheep Yards

RUFUS WELCH — Hogs

JOHN BIRDSONG — Cattle  
NITE — MA-2736

VERN ALLEN — Calves  
NITE VA-7476

BILL BEAM — Cattle Gate

BILL CARROLL — Cattle Yards

PHIL QUINLIVAN — Cashier

MARVIN BOWDEN — Acc't. Sales

DAISY BURKS — Acc't Sales



## Since 1884

The San Angelo National Bank has grown through  
**SERVICE** to the RANCH INDUSTRY . . .  
and the business institutions of San Angelo and  
West Texas.

We invite you to make our bank your bank.



**San Angelo National Bank**

**San Angelo, Texas**

MEMBER F.D.I.C.



# Sheep and Goat Raiser

THE RANCHMAN'S MAGAZINE

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SAN ANGELO, TEXAS

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UVALDE, TEXAS

## SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

\$3 FOR THREE YEARS

50 cents per year to members of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association. This is one-half the regular advertised price of \$1 per year to non-members; it is a voluntary payment and is included in the dues to the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association which furnishes each member the magazine as part of its services. Dues of 25 cents per bag of wool and mohair are usually deducted by warehouse of grower at sale time.

Non-member subscriptions should be sent to magazine office direct. Dues to association office.

## DOMESTIC GROWERS DENY "SUPERIOR" CLAIMS OF FOREIGN WOOL

## Clothing Firm Ad Brings Storm From Sheep Growers

### EDITORIAL

MOVING WITH increasing momentum is the storm of objections by domestic wool growers to certain inferences by domestic clothing manufacturers that imported wools excel those grown in the United States. Some of the statements favoring "exotic" wools have been dillys, well-calculated to raise the ire of any self-respecting, drouth-ridden sheepman riding his government incentive payment and grabbing at straws to stay in business.

The following letter to one of the clothing firms which extols the merits of foreign wools is comprehensive and needs no further comment, we believe, except to say that a more vigorous, more objective course of action on the part of domestic growers in protecting their interests is indicated for the future.

November 1, 1955

M. Kestbaum, President  
Hart, Schaffner & Marx Clothing  
36 South Franklin Street  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Kestbaum:

I have just read your full-page advertisement in the October 29, 1955, issue of the Saturday Evening Post. I don't know what it cost but I recognize it is a very expensive way to try to sell Americans on products other than those raised in the United States.

I am just one wool grower of the United States writing my opinion but I do have a background for my father and I have been raising wool for more than 60 years.

Over 30 years ago we both bought only Hart, Schaffner & Marx suits, considering them the best that were made. However, in those days they used good American-grown wool and the suits were as good then as they are today.

What is wrong with our American wool? In your advertisement you say: "The chillier part of Chile is where the hardiest of windswept sheep produce sturdy and resilient Punta wool." Is Punta region wool fine or medium or half-blood or one-fourth or one-eighth in grade? Has your research division been in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Idaho or Wyoming in the winter? It gets a little chilly in those regions, too.

You also state: "More leisurely and languid sheep from the warmer plains of Argentina are equally serious about their job of growing silky Corriente wool . . ." In Spanish Corriente means ordinary or whatever there is there. Does this wool have any special grade? Has your research department been in Southern California, Arizona, New Mexico or Texas, where not only the sheep but also the shearers get languid?

We wool growers in these regions

grow wool from the very finest to the coarsest of grades. We have, today, millions of pounds of wool shorn this year that cannot be sold because of people like you completely undermining our market through the promotion of the idea that foreign wools are best. Don't you realize that all this advertising that foreign wools are better is going to increase the pressures on your own business through creating the false impression that all foreign wool products are better? The Frankenstein result will be increased imports of wool fabrics and wool clothes from foreign countries to compete with your factories and your workers.

As wool growers we do not understand how the wool manufacturers and clothing people can expect the wool growers to support them in their fight to prevent importation of cheap labor-produced fabrics and clothes, ruining their business, when at the same time they use their money to advertise foreign wools as being better than American wools.

The government is now embarked upon the sale of millions of pounds of wool produced in the United States which they took possession of under a support program because people like you imported cheaply produced foreign wool. How would you like the wool-growing industry to advertise in the Saturday Evening Post that Hart, Schaffner & Marx are importing foreign woolen fabrics because of the cheap labor conditions in the countries from which it is imported to keep American workers from earning pay the equivalent United States standard of living?

You take our United States consumer dollars and use them to buy cheap labor produced foreign raw materials and use other portions of the money you save to advertise that the American-produced product is inferior.

I see no reason why American sheep producers or their employees, or the truckers who haul our sheep and wool, or the warehousemen who store it, or the railroads who haul it to the markets from the producing areas and salesmen who sell to and service our industry in the United States should be interested in buying Hart, Schaffner & Marx clothes when a part of the money is used to tell the American public falsehoods about the quality of imported cheap wools as compared to those produced in the United States.

Why are you forgetting that American producers and workers are your best market?

Sincerely yours,

California Range Association  
John P. Bidegaray, President

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## THIS ISSUE

WE BELIEVE the readers of this magazine will find this December issue most enjoyable and that many of the articles will be of long-lasting value. We are fully confident, too, those issues of 1956 will be of full enjoyment and satisfaction, also. To this end we will direct our best efforts.

At this time, and right here, we would like to express our appreciation to the friends of this magazine, and to the friends of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association for their cooperation and helpfulness during 1955. The magazine staff and the officials of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association express sincere good wishes to all growers, and friends of the growers, for the holiday season and for the coming year.

**W  
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L**

ONE ADDRESS -- TO BETTER SERVE YOU

**San Angelo Wool Co.**

FEED - GRAIN - SEED - SALT

**Stockmen's Supply Co.**

VACCINES - STOCK REMEDIES

Headquarters for Shelled Corn

**M  
O  
H  
A  
I  
R**

504 SOUTH OAKES STREET

Telephones  
LD55  
6004  
6311

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS

"YOUR PATRONAGE APPRECIATED"

**The TOP COMPANY**

BOSTON, MASS.

BUYERS OF TEXAS AND NEW MEXICO

**WOOL**

REPRESENTED BY

**VAUGHAN BROS.**

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS





## She "Votes" with her Dollars

**...and how she casts her ballots affects the price of meat.**

Mrs. Homemaker in a food store is like a voter at the polls: Dollars are her ballots... and the candidates—as many as 4,000 food items—fill every case and shelf.

Like any voter in a free land, the housewife makes her own choice: Maybe she picks pork chops... perhaps she chooses a beef roast instead... or passes up both to vote for lamb, poultry or cheese.

Lots of things influence the homemaker's vote for food—quality, attractiveness, ease of preparation, personal preference or habit, advertising. *Price*, too, is an important factor in determining the kinds and quantities of meat she buys—especially in a year like this, when more livestock is going to market than ever before... 80 million hogs, fifth greatest number on record... 40 million cattle and calves, an all-time high... 17 million sheep and lambs.

Mrs. Homemaker, you see, is budget-minded—she spends about the same number of dollars for meat from one week to the next. So, when livestock marketings increase... when there's more meat to sell... it usually takes lower retail meat

prices to get the consumer's vote for all of it.

These prices, in turn, help determine how much retailers, and other meat outlets, will pay for cuts and carcasses.

And it's the wholesale price that processors like Swift can get for meat... and for by-products... that governs what we bid for your livestock.

So Mrs. Homemaker's vote is mighty important to everyone in the livestock and meat business—to you as a producer, to us as a meat packer. Because *what* she buys, *how often* and *how much*, affects prices all along the line... in the store, on the hook, on the hoof.



*Tom Glaze*

SWIFT & COMPANY  
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH DEPARTMENT  
UNION STOCK YARDS • CHICAGO





?

From Boston comes this encouraging note: "I get better reports from Detroit. Let's keep the iron hot! I am sure we will get some of that automobile business if we go after it hard enough!"

Strenuous, well-studied efforts are being made in the east and in the wool-producing areas by friends of the wool industry and by interested growers to promote wool consumption. "If there is one thing we need to help the wool business, it is a greater consumption of wool!"

"Grower, consider this again . . . and again. The amount of wool if used in automobile upholstery would take more than the whole yearly 12- and eight-months clip of Texas!"

We are trying in this column to convince you, the grower, that it pays, will continue to pay you, to insist upon automobiles upholstered in wool and mohair. The dealer and the automobile manufacturer are sensitive to your demands.

**Good results are showing up even now.**

This is a big step toward regaining one of wool's lost markets.

Do you, Mr. Grower, believe that it is worth while to continue this work? If so, **let us know.**

Please send in to the magazine your comments and suggestions.



This Ad Sponsored by Texas Warehouses:

Joe B. Blakeney Wool Warehouse	SAN ANGELO
Del Rio Wool & Mohair Co.	DEL RIO
Eldorado Wool Co.	ELDORADO
Roddie & Company	BRADY
San Angelo Wool Co.	SAN ANGELO
Santa Rita Wool Co.	SAN ANGELO
Sonora Wool & Mohair Co.	SONORA
Lucius M. Stephens & Co.	LOMETA
Munro Kincaid Mottla, Inc.	BOSTON, MASS.

## From the Association Office . . .

ERNEST WILLIAMS  
Executive Secretary

Dear Member:

I am sending you this letter even though you probably have been keeping up with your association's business and activities through newspaper stories, reports given by your officers at quarterly meetings and through the "From the Association Office" and articles each month in the Sheep and Goat Raiser magazine.

My main reason in writing this letter is to explain the changes that have been proposed in the association's by-laws. They have already been approved unanimously by the directors and will be voted on by the membership at the annual convention in Fort Worth December 5-7.

For the most part the changes proposed do no more than streamline or clarify the language of the old by-laws without changing its meaning, but two big changes have been proposed - increasing the annual dues to 50 cents per bag and changing the method of electing the directors.

It is proposed that the annual dues be raised from 25 cents per bag to 50 cents per bag of wool or mohair. The producer with one, two, three, four and five bags would pay \$2.50; all above that number would be at the 50-cents-per-bag rate.

This is a big increase percentage-wise, but 50 cents per bag is only about two cents per head. That two cents per head is what you will be paying to protect the four to six dollars' worth of wool and the seven to 12 dollars' worth of lamb that the ewe produces. That two cents per ewe or 50 cents per bag doesn't amount to a lot on most individual clips, but when you and all your neighbors participate it becomes a formidable amount.

Those are the funds that enabled your association to work in Austin last spring on the feed law legislation, funds for extra scabies inspectors for the Livestock Sanitary Commission, the water bill which would protect your right to construct a dirt tank on your land to catch rain that falls there, and many other activities here and nationally.

The Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association is the only organization in the state of Texas interested in your welfare as a producer of mohair, wool and lamb. If it is to continue to do that job it must have more income.

Another change is the election of directors whose duty it is to run the affairs of the association between annual meetings or membership meetings. The proposed change provides that the state will be divided into districts and the members in each district at the annual convention will elect their own directors from their district. In addition, 10 directors from the state at large will be elected by all members at the convention. You will be able to elect your directors and then tell those directors what you want done.

The new by-laws propose that officers and other members traveling on association business at the request of the president would be paid minimum traveling expenses. This is new; heretofore the association officers have been paying their own expenses and in the course of a year the president and others could and have spent several thousand dollars of their own money. This association has lots of men who would make good officers but they cannot afford the honor. Under the proposed by-laws the association would pay their standard or minimum traveling expenses and I do not think any man will abuse the privilege.

Our 40th annual convention is to be held in Fort Worth on December 5-7. Your officers are to report what has been accomplished during the year. The members will elect new officers and directors and tell them what the association should work on during the year.

No member needs an invitation to attend his own convention, but anyway this is one. The Texas Hotel will be headquarters.

Sincerely yours,  
R. W. HODGE

NOTHING  
MEASURES  
UP TO  
WOOL



## A SALUTE TO THE PIONEERS . . .



J. Willis (Jake) Johnson, Jr.  
1890-1955

They helped to build the Southwest – and most of them were pioneers in ranching as well as leaders of this bank.

The Central National Bank appreciates the services of all of these deceased old-timers and feels that they have contributed much to the development and growth of West Texas and success of this institution.

We assure the public generally that we will continue to operate a first-class bank upon those high principles so staunchly erected by the pioneers and to extend all courtesies, accommodations and friendship to which they were so strongly devoted.

# *The* CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS

MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

JOHN M. BATES  
OLIN BLANKS  
C. A. FREEZE  
CLAUDE GIBBS, JR.  
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W. CLINT JOHNSON, JR.  
C. C. McBurnett  
JACK RANSOM  
CALVIN H. SUGG

JOHN ALLISON  
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L. L. FARR  
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RALPH H. HARRIS  
WM. HEMPHILL  
SAM H. HILL  
JARED P. HILL  
W. CLINT JOHNSON  
J. WILLIS JOHNSON, SR.

JAMES C. LANDON  
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J. M. SHANNON  
A. B. SHERWOOD  
JOSEPH SPENCE, JR.  
A. A. SUGG  
J. D. SUGG  
FAYETTE TANKERSLEY  
U. G. TAYLOR  
C. C. WALSH



*"Strength, Safety and Courtesy"*



Don Johnson  
1912



### TEXAS TECH TEAM PLACES SECOND AT AMERICAN ROYAL

The Texas Tech wool judging team earned three points less than winner Kansas State to take second place in the Intercollegiate Wool Judging Contest at the American Royal in Kansas City, Missouri, recently. Billy Taylor, Buchanan Dam; Johnny Jones, Mercury, and Tom Neff, Colorado City, were first in judging breed classes of wool and tied for second in wool grading. Jones, second from left, was high man for overall judging. Taylor, left, ranged third in the contest and tied for second in judging breed classes. Ray C. Mowery, right, was team coach.

## Texas Warehouses

Alpine	Big Bend Wool & Mohair Co.	Press Nichols
Ballinger	Herring & Stallings	Lloyd Herring
Bandera	Bandera County Ranchmen Farmers Ass'n.	Ray F. Wyatt
Big Lake	Big Lake Wool & Mohair Co.	Woodrow Munn
Blanco	Blanco Hardware & Equipment Store	Mr. Sultenfuss
Brady	Farmers & Ranchers Co-op	
	Wilson D. Jordan Co.	W. D. Jordan
	Roddie & Company	Frank Roddie
	Spiller Wool Co.	Aubrey Davee
Brownwood	Hollis Blackwell Warehouse	Carl Boine
Coleman	Theo Griffin Warehouse	Theo Griffin
	George D. Rhone Warehouse	Gen. D. Rhone
Comanche	Burton Brothers	J. H. Burton
Comfort	Comfort Wool & Mohair Pool	Adolf Sticler
Del Rio	Del Rio Wool & Mohair Company	Ed Long
	Producers Wool & Mohair Company	C. B. Wardlaw
Dripping Springs	W. P. Crowe Company	W. P. Crowe
Eden	James L. Daniel Warehouse	Jas. L. Daniel
	Eden Wool & Mohair Company	Fred W. Hall
Eldorado	Eldorado Wool Company	J. Ed Hall
Florence	Tom Williams Warehouse	T. M. Williams
Fredericksburg	Farmers Grain Company	Hilmar Weinheimer
	Lichte Storage & Commission Company	Felix Heimann
	Woerner Warehouse	E. L. Woerner
Fort Stockton	Ranchers Wool & Mohair Ass'n.	Herman Diebitsch
Fort Worth	Texas Wool Company	Myers Faulkner
Goldthwaite	Goldthwaite Wool Company	S. H. Rahl
	Hollis Blackwell Warehouse	H. Blackwell
Ingram	Ranchman's Wool & Mohair Commission House	Dale Pinour
Johnson City	Johnson City Wool & Mohair Company	H. E. Ragsdill
	Waters Hardware & Supply Company	Melvin Winters
Junction	Hill Country Wool & Mohair Company	Gerald Ragland
	Junction Warehouse Company	C. T. Holekamp
Kerrville	Schreiner Wool & Mohair Company	Ed Ferguson
Lampasas	Central Texas Trading Company	Joe Almond
	C. P. Cloud & Son	Weldon Cloud
Lometa	Glynn C. Perkins Wool Company	Glynn Perkins
	Lometa Wool & Mohair Company	Uel Potts
	Lucius M. Stephens & Company	Mickey Stephens
Llano	Llano Wool & Mohair Company	Ben Donop
Marfa	Marfa Wool & Mohair Company	Gerald Nicks
Mason	Mason Feed Store	Walton Lehnberg
	Mason Warehouse Ass'n.	Lee Roy Stengel
	Mason Wool & Mohair Company	Clayton Reeves
Menard	J. F. Highsmith Warehouse	Frank Highsmith
	Menard Wool & Mohair Company	George Smith
		(Frank Roddie)
	Western Wool & Mohair Company	B. D. Roberts
Meridian	Jack Kirby Wool Warehouse	Jack Kirby
Mertzon	West Texas Wool & Mohair Ass'n.	R. Crawford
New Braunfels	Producers Cooperative Marketing Ass'n.	Leslie Ehlers
Ozona	Ozona Wool & Mohair Company	Beal Barbee
Paint Rock	Paint Rock Wool Company	J. M. Patton
Rankin	Ranchers Wool & Mohair Company	Tom Workman
Rocksprings	J. D. Varga Warehouse	J. D. Varga
San Angelo	Joe Blakeney Warehouse	Joe Blakeney
	San Angelo Wool Co.	Rudy Vaughan
	Western Wool & Mohair Company	Bill Littleton
	Wool Growers Central Storage Company	
	Santa Rita Wool Company	Bevie DeMouille
San Saba	Hollis Blackwell Warehouse	Tom Womack
Sanderson	Sanderson Wool Commission Company	John T. Williams
San Marcos	Kreuz Milling & Grain Company	H. C. Kreuz
Santa Anna	Santa Anna Wool Ass'n.	O. L. Chaney
Sonora	Sonora Wool & Mohair Company	Fred T. Earwood
Sterling City	Martin C. Reed Warehouse	Martin C. Reed
Sweetwater	Central Wool & Mohair Company	Vernon McMillan
Talpa	Western Wool & Mohair Company	Dexter Huey
Uvalde	Horner's	Fred Horner
	L. Schwartz Company	Louis Schwartz
	Uvalde Producers Wool & Mohair	Chas. Griffin
	Uvalde Wool & Mohair Company	R. L. Sutherland

## Tax Bulletin

THE LAW says that sick pay and accident and health insurance received by an employee and paid for by an employer is taxable income to the employee except in three specific situations. With regard to these three exceptions, covering reimbursement for medical expenses, wage continuation payments and payments for loss of limbs, disfigurement, etc., the employee can receive the amounts tax-free even though the employer pays them or pays for them.

1. Employee excludes from gross income amounts paid to him by his employer to reimburse the employee's (or employee's spouse's or dependents) medical expense if received by the employee under an employee health and accident plan.

2. An employee isn't taxable on premiums paid by his employer on health and accident insurance under an employee health and accident plan.

3. Amounts received by an employee (up to \$100 weekly) are tax-free if they constitute wages or payments instead of wages for a period during which the employee is absent from work because of personal injuries. Similarly in case of sickness without hospitalization the first week's wages for the period of sickness is taxable to the employee.

4. Employer may deduct expenses of insurance premiums paid, reimbursed medical expense, and wages continued for employees absent on account of sickness or injury even though such payments may be tax-exempt to the employee if paid by the employer under a plan.

5. Such plan need not cover all employees. There may be different plans for different employees. The plan need not be in writing. The plan need not be contractual with the employee. If not enforceable, payments received by the employee are considered as received under a plan only if the employee was covered under the plan and knowledge or notice of being covered was reasonably available to such employee.

6. Even though the employee need not report as income medical expense reimbursement received from his employer under a plan, the reimbursement may partly or completely nullify the employee's medical expense deduction in the manner in which payment of medical expense by his own insurance reduces his medical expense deduction. In case of an employee using the standard (10 per cent) deduction or the short form table to calculate his tax the payments received have no effect upon the return.

7. Sickness or disability need not be incurred in the occupation nor attributable to the occupation of the employee.

8. Amounts received by employees from the employer or through insurance paid for by the employer are taxable income to the employee unless such payments come under the specific (three) provisions of the law.

### WHAT'S NEW

**BATCHLER CASTRATOR** — A new model of the Batchler ALL-IN-ONE castrator has been introduced. It is about the same as the original one, which has gained such popularity in the sheep industry, except that it does not have an ear marker, as many people do not care for this part of the instrument. Holders are made on this instrument, however, for those who might want to add this feature. This has reduced the manufacturing cost on this model and it is now offered for sale at \$12.50.

However, it is quite likely that the old model, which has met with such favorable reception, will continue to be favored.

The invention of this instrument by W. H. Batchler, who then lived in Palo Pinto, was one of convenience. For many years he had castrated and docked his own sheep with a knife, and studied to improve this unwieldy method of handling his sheep. The ALL-IN-ONE instrument introduced to the sheep producers 23 years ago was first advertised in the Sheep and Goat Raiser. Since that time it has enjoyed a wonderful reception, and in 1956 is expected to be the largest volume year in history.

### NEW SUPER 33 CHAIN SAW

**TIMBERLAND Saw Company** has recently announced its new Super 33 McCulloch chain saw which weighs only 22 pounds. It is being distributed out of Marshall, Texas, and through R. R. Henke of Fredericksburg. This 22-pound lightweight chain saw and other chain saws are becoming increasingly important in Texas to the ranch people and stock farmers. They provide an easy handling, economical way of cutting timber, not only for firewood but for ranch use in innumerable ways.

The recently proved Super 33 is said to have the highest horsepower of any saw of this type and weight. Users declare it has many design features to facilitate handling and low-cost maintenance such as wrap-around chrome-plated handle, good accessibility and increased cooling for the additional horsepower, and a very practical sawdust and sprocket guard.



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## ASK THE MEN WHO USE 'EM!

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### AUXILIARY OFFICIAL

Mrs. Lloyd Herring of Ballinger, president of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association.

To the Members of the Auxiliary to the  
Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association:

*As our current year reaches its conclusion, I should like to express my gratitude for the privilege of serving as your president. To have been associated with such a cooperative group, working diligently and harmoniously together, giving unstintingly of time and ability, has made my year most pleasant. This concerted effort of the officers, committees, advisory board and individual members has been the instrument effecting the greater advancement and promotion of our industry, its products and by-products.*

*Mr. R. W. Hodge and the association have been of immeasurable assistance, as have Mr. Ernest Williams, Mr. Hiram Phillips and Miss Margaret Pankey.*

*It has been an honor to be your president and to represent an organization in which we have such great pride. Please accept my unfeigned thanks for the opportunity of working with you and getting to know you better. It has been a most rewarding experience.*

Sincerely,  
SUE HERRING

## Are Your Dues Paid?

The November issue of the Sheep and Goat Raiser carried a statement of the purposes of this association entitled, "Are You a Member of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association?"

If you did not read it, then dig up that issue and look it over. It reminded a number of members whose dues were not paid to send in a check.

If your warehouse did not deduct your dues, mail your check, too — direct to the association office, Box 1486, San Angelo.

Quite a number of dues-delinquent members have received notices from the association office that their dues have not been paid. The association regrets that it must remove their names from the membership rolls and the mailing list of the Sheep and Goat Raiser magazine.

Pay your dues now and remain a member of the only organization in the state that is concerned with the problems of the sheep and goat industry — your problems.



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## Demand for Quality in Competitive Meat Market

By U. S. GARRIGUS  
University of Illinois



MANY OF us in the sheep industry are so busy trying to do a good job of production that we fail to give adequate attention to the point of view of the consumer. We expect consumers to buy the lamb and wool which we produce—they always have! Times are changing, however, and so is the variety of produce and of goods which are offered for purchase. While there are more consumer dollars available to be spent than ever before, they are being spent in a highly selective and competitive market.

We have often heard that "the customer is always right," but never has he been so right as he is today. Remember automobiles? Henry Ford is reported to have once said, "You can have any color car as long as it is black." What a contrast to that are the masses of varied colored cars we see today!

About one-fourth of our meat is sold today through self-service super markets. These markets do all they can to provide the consumer with anything she may want. Her choice of meats is not just lamb, beef or pork. She can have all kinds of poultry, fish, luncheon meats, frozen pies, stews, et cetera. Her choice is almost limitless. Alert producer groups are recognizing this trend in the way America lives. They are trying to find out what the housewife wants so that they can supply it to her.

Swine producers have found that consumers want lean pork. They are now thoroughly engrossed in a program of feeding, breeding and marketing meat-type hogs. In England, where mutton was preferred for so many years, a careful study revealed a modern preference for prime young lamb. New Zealand is now producing large numbers of Canterbury lamb for the English market. English lamb producers are reportedly putting three and one-half month-old

lambs weighing 85 pounds on their English market. Quite a contrast to 25 years ago!

You might now ask, "Well, what can we as individual producers do? We're too busy just trying to make a living to spend time studying our market!" Actually producers have taken a step already by voting favorably on the "self-help" program of the 1954 Wool Act. The American Sheep Producers' Council is now setting in motion plans for locating the sheep industry's favorable strong points and its areas of weakness through market studies. The effort will then be made through promotion, advertising and education to make our sheep industry more competitive in today's market.

Tender young lamb properly prepared is a delicious meat, and high-quality wool properly manufactured is unsurpassed as an apparel fiber. However, it is equally certain that the consumer under present conditions will not settle for less quality than he is now getting (unless it is at a substantially lower price). We must continue to improve the lamb and wool which we produce. If we fail to make these improvements the competing meats and fibers will take away our markets with the improvements that they will make.

By developing a consumer consciousness we can better assure our products of a profitable trip from producer to consumer.

### KERRVILLE LABORATORY HONORED

THE U. S. Department of Agriculture recently honored the staff of the Livestock Insect Laboratory at Kerrville, Texas, for research that is now saving the livestock industry millions of dollars a year.

The award was announced by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson on June 1, and was presented by Dr. George Irving, Jr., of the department on September 12 to Dr. R. C. Bushland, chief of staff at Kerrville.

The award was based upon laboratory work in developing, evaluating and recommending a variety of insecticides for the control of biting flies, ticks, lice and screwworms; also establishing safe dosages and methods of analyzing insecticidal residues; also in developing a new principle of insect control through the use of sterilized male insects.

This laboratory was organized in 1946.

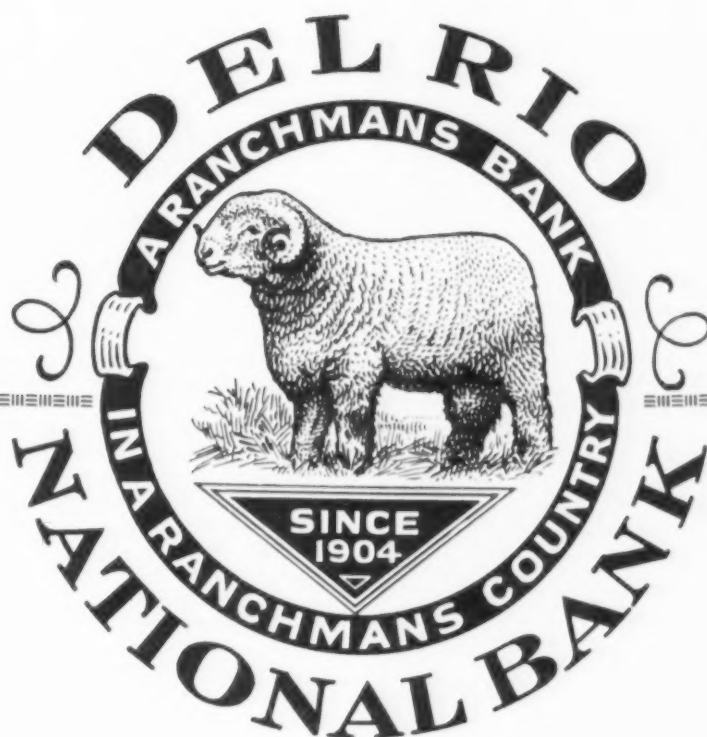
A well-known commission man (representing the owner of the lambs) trying to "get together" with a head lamb buyer on a load of lambs. Whenever possible, go to market with your lambs. Your commission man will appreciate your interest and you in turn will learn more about your market.

A carload of lamb carcasses moving from the wholesaler (packer) to the retailer (chain store super market). They must be uniform and meaty to move in volume at a satisfactory price.

Where sales volume is low, the mark-up in price by the retailer is relatively high. Where sales volume is high as it was on spring lamb in this feature case at a super market in Boston last spring, the mark-up by the retailer is relatively low and the producer gets a bigger portion of the consumer's lamb dollar. The retail mark-up for the whole carcass was only about 14 per cent, as these West Coast livestock men found out while on a trip studying marketing of lamb and beef.

1904

1955



## *Fifty-one Years of Service To Our Community*

On October 24, 1904, the Del Rio National Bank opened for business. Since that time much water has gone over the dam. As we look back over the pages of time, what interesting years they have been, packed full of romance and adventure.

Our community has sent its sons to serve in three great wars. A number of its citizens to prominence in state and national affairs. The Atomic Age has begun to unfold before our eyes.

Working side by side with our community we have battled four major depressions. But we have prospered together until our bank stands as a pillar of conservatism, yet progressive and considerate of the needs of its customers.

And so today, after a half-century of service among the best friends and neighbors in the world, we reaffirm our faith in the community and with the same spirit of friendly cooperation as when our bank opened for business in 1904 . . . rededicate ourselves with a resolute purpose.

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# Analyzing Livestock And Meat Situation

By SHEEP AND GOAT RAISER CHICAGO BUREAU

HOGS AND fat steers have made so many big supply and low-price records over the last 30 days—merely a continuation of what has been going on for 60-90 days—that they have gotten themselves in a rut. One big run of hogs, mainly spring shoats, followed another until 32,000 head at Chicago, with 170,000 head around the market circle on November 14 harked back to 1944. And the \$12.90 top at Chicago was lowest since February, 1942. Most light butchers scaling 220 pounds down had to sell at \$12 to \$12.50; 230 to 290's at \$11.25 to \$12, and packing sows at \$10 to \$11.

This climaxed all growing supply and sliding price records until the middle of November. Just as on previous big runs and sharp price breaks some regarded hogs at their low. But others in the trade didn't, pointing to the big increase in fall pigs where Iowa's 15 per cent upturn gave a sign. Some states, notably Indiana, had already run bulk of spring pigs, but the western corn belt hadn't. Losing \$5 to \$7 in less than 30 days wholesale pork loins had dropped to \$35 at Chicago. However, no one doubted but that packers and processors had been and still are doing right well by themselves in pork and pork products.

Hams got a good play for the Thanksgiving trade when it became apparent that turkeys would sell higher than a year earlier. Hog prices had

lost \$2.50 to \$3.50 since mid-October, and although he didn't mean it that way, some feared that Secretary Benson might have been pretty close on target when he merely mentioned \$11 earlier in the year. Considering record pork volume for months and years on end, federal pork purchases for school lunches became more meaningless than ever, especially since sentiment was growing that whatever helped pork would hurt beef by exactly so much.

And while hogs were being whacked all the while, fat steers were being whittled— heavies scaling 1,300 pounds upward actually lambasted. One record run of some sort following another, choice and prime steers had given up \$1 to \$3, big weights, of course, off most as smooth 1,774 pounds sold at \$16.50 and year-fed Iowas finally had, on cleanup markets, to accept \$16. And when two-year fed Ohios averaging 1,620 pounds went under protest at \$18 to lose finishers a wad of money which only became bigger when feed lot mates the very next day had to accept \$17. Prime light steers worked down to a \$24.25 top, but very little beat \$23 at the worst time during November, choice and prime, according to weight, dragging along at \$19 to \$23. And all the while a lot of steers made too big mostly because there was lots of corn around, at \$19 down to \$16.50.

All during the period under re-

view, fat steers at Chicago and the major markets averaged 50 to 60 pounds over a year earlier, thus in the face of huge runs yielding beef tonnages that were excessive. Plus all the pork at hand consumers simply couldn't keep packers' hangrails from becoming cluttered. No doubt promotional efforts on the part of highly accredited beef and pork organizations helped. But not enough, so wholesale dressed beef grading good to prime in the Chicago-New York area melted \$1.50 to \$3, with choice and prime loins \$7 to \$8 lower. The above beef-consuming area had carried the country's fat steer and heifer trade last winter, and until late this last spring, permitting choice—but not prime—Californians to come fast and bring up to \$32.25 in April. Later—and evidently too late—Corn Belt and inter-mountain feedlots began to unload, the dressed trade snapped, too many finishers well-supplied with grain feed grain-fed on until cumulative downturns sent fat steers lowest since 1946. Feeding losses on heavies ranged \$20 to \$30 a head throughout the late October and early November marketing glut period when some steers threw away \$50 a head.

In addition, most of the corn utilized to put on too much weight was simply wasted—went down the drain, so to speak. At mid-November, exactly when poultry was posing an additionally bearish factor in all red meats, the average price of fat steers at Chicago stood well below \$22 compared with \$25.50 a year earlier when it seemed finishers couldn't ship enough fat cattle to Chicago and the river to break dressed beef in New York.

But when the growing beef crop, plus all the pork available, began to bear down beginning last July, all dressed meat prices entered a period of strangling competition. Hence not only better-grade steers, particularly 1,300- to 1,700-pound averages, but all fat heifers lost sharply while fat cows finally dropped to a new low for the year, losing \$1.50 to \$2 during late October and early November. This depressed fat cows at Chicago, where relatively few had arrived all season, to \$8 to \$11, with canners and cutters \$6 to \$8.50. Other cattle such as bulls fell hard in sympathy, and, sympathetically, too, fat woolled lambs became so tightly squeezed by so many steers and hogs that best wools at Chicago dropped to \$19. Prime No. 1 skin clippers brought \$18.75; however, shorn lambs selling right along with

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wools — mostly because they were fatter.

As a rule it was \$17 down on yearling wethers as the dressed lamb trade in general had to give up \$1 to \$2 losses in trying to compete with other red meats. It was being increasingly stressed that consumers never had it so good right while finishers took big feeding losses on fat cattle and the hog-corn feed ratio continued to dwindle regardless of cheaper corn prices.

And in addition to a big run of fall-littered pigs coming up, a close study of cattle on feed figures did not indicate that the end of heavies was too close at hand. Hence trade opinion was that there might not be any trade stimulating letdown until the turn of the year. October 1 reports talked of 895,000 head fed six months or more in nine states as compared with 632,000 head a year earlier. The number on feed three to six months was up 12 per cent. At that time Iowa was believed to have 25 per cent more cattle than last year in the lots, with several other big feeding states not so far behind. This numerical handicap, plus much higher average weights, plus mountains of pork, simply meant that fat cattle might merely have to muddle through, as hogs also more surely might, enforcing a muddled situation in lambs meanwhile.

There is normally a price-leveling period in hogs as the spring crop gives way to fall pigs. This is due — but as yet has not arrived. The only bright spot in fat cattle is that any-

thing like normal receipts send buyers scurrying — even for heavies. Yet anything like normal runs are too short-lived to help the market much — at least so far. And all the while finishers are buying lots of cattle considering the shape and outlook of the market, taking 184,000 steers in October compared with 170,000 a year earlier. There hasn't been much of a dropdown in the four-month July to October steer replacement buy but purchases of calves were measurably down, 199,000 head at 10 markets compared with 270,000 head a year earlier. Stock cow and heifer buying fell away also, nearly 10 per cent. And while fat steers at Chicago ran into such a rut that the crop was averaging around \$3.50 under a year earlier — suggesting much more depreciation on 1,300- to 1,600-pound bullocks — the 10-market average price of feeding steers scaling 500 pounds upward at mid-November stood at \$17.82 in contrast with \$18.76 last year. And weighty feeders, including half-fat kinds, driven low by the semi-demoralized trade on fat heavies, were still going back — to suggest the country is playing big cattle for a comeback.

#### WANTS ANGORA GOAT SKINS

MRS. BEN STROUD, 124 Udine Way, Los Angeles 24, California, writes the magazine that she wants to secure some Angora goat skins for rug-making purposes. Here is an opportunity for someone, and we urge any interested person to write to her.

#### A REVOLUTION IN WOOL SCOURING

A NEW "spirit method" of scouring wool was demonstrated to delegates to the International Wool Textile Research Conference in Melbourne recently.

The new method of de-greasing wool by dry cleaning with white spirit instead of scouring with soap solutions was explained at the Geelong research laboratories of the Australian Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization.

J. F. Sinclair, the inventor, pointed out that the process was quicker, more efficient and more effective than normal scouring methods. The main advantage of the new process was that the wool fibres were not entangled to anything like the same degree as with normal scouring. This fibre entanglement, which worsted manufacturers describe as a bugbear, makes wool sorting and reclassing difficult and costly.

The new process also gave a higher proportion of tops, and the yarn was of better color. Other advantages were the smallness of the plant and elimination of the effluent problem. Valuable fleece byproducts could also be easily recovered.

"The cost of a complete plant," said Mr. Sinclair, "is about the same as the usual scouring set. The cost of de-greasing compares favorably with soap and soda scouring."

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# Washington Parade

By JAY RICHTER

WOOL GROWERS are among the few farmers expected to be better off in coming months. USDA officials working on wool problems tell us that producers will get about 15 per cent more for this year's clip than for that of 1954.

Reason, of course, is the 62-cent-per-pound guarantee under the new wool incentive payment program. Payments, however, won't be made until next summer.

On the dark side—at least from the government point of view—is the fact that wool payments are going to be considerably higher than had been figured. Cost to the government on 1955 production is figured at \$50 million.

About \$35 million is what USDA had thought it would need to pay out. But market prices for wool have been lower... slipped to 40.3 cents per pound in September, or about nine cents down from last April and off considerably more than that from last year.

Under the new payment program USDA guarantees the difference between average market prices for the year and the support level of 62 cents per pound.\*

Question has come up of whether government funds for payments would run out, since the money comes from tariff collections on foreign wool—and these collections have been dropping. The answer is, probably not. There are accumulations in the tariff fund available for payments of about \$70 to \$80 million.

\*Editor's Note: This statement is not quite clear. See table below.

Tariff collections this year—that could be used for payments—will amount to \$30 million or \$35 million. That is considerably less than the estimated \$50 million to be made in payments on this year's clip. But officials think the wool market will pick up, thus reducing the amount of incentive payments by the government.

Mr. Eisenhower has now made it clear that he will stick with flexibles. His administration, he said, "will not go back to old policies that have failed." Along with this statement following a Denver meeting with Mr. Benson came a program for "action," stated in general terms. As interpreted in Washington by farm officials, here is what the administration will seek in weeks ahead:

(1) More spending of funds already available to the agriculture secretary to meet specific commodity emergencies as they arise. Several such moves already have been made, such as the pork purchase program, and government diversion of surplus potatoes.

(2) Mr. Benson and his department again will go after new funds to aid low-income farmers. At the last session of Congress the Secretary was denied money to start "pilot" aid programs in selected counties of low rural income (although Congress did authorize \$15 million in additional Farmers Home Administration loans to help "small" farmers).

(3) Sentiment across country apparently has been strong for incentive payments to farmers for retiring diverted acres from cash production.

Mr. Benson and President Eisenhower indicate that they will recommend this be done by expanding the present \$250 million ACP pay conservation payments program.

(4) Larger appropriations once again will be sought by the USDA for agricultural research and education. Such spending is not expected to bring early visible results, but it remains Mr. Benson's cornerstone policy for the long-time benefit of agriculture.

Will USDA pork purchases help hog markets?

Most Washington livestock authorities are saying "yes"—but maybe not much.

The Benson buying program calls for purchase of about 170 million pounds of pork and 30 million pounds of lard between now and perhaps next August. That is less than the pork produced in a week in packing plants under federal inspection.

Consensus seems to be this: The buying itself will help just a bit, but the psychological lift brought about by government entry into the market may help more.

Pork purchases will be limited to what can be used in school lunches and other special programs, says Mr. Benson. Being purchased are luncheon meat processed from shoulders, hams, or loins; canned pork and gravy from loins and hams, and lard. Hams also may be put on the department's shopping list.

You can look for more hot talk about "middlemen." Reasons: The declining share of the consumer's food dollar going to agriculture; the mounting marketing charges on food products; somewhat higher profits for at least some food industries, and "sticky" retail food prices that have gone down only slightly.

Three trends are underlined by recent figures from the USDA. They show that the farmer's share of the

## Growers Guide Table for Determining Wool Incentive Payments

Net Price  
Received  
By Grower

\$0.70	.5040	.4410	.3850	.3360	.2870	.2450	.2030	.1680	.1330	.1050	.0770
.65	.4680	.4095	.3575	.3120	.2665	.2275	.1885	.1560	.1234	.0975	.0715
.60	.4320	.3780	.3300	.2880	.2460	.2100	.1740	.1440	.1140	.0900	.0660
.55	.3960	.3465	.3025	.2640	.2255	.1925	.1595	.1320	.1045	.0825	.0605
.50	.3600	.3150	.2750	.2400	.2050	.1750	.1450	.1200	.0950	.0750	.0550
.45	.3240	.2835	.2475	.2160	.1845	.1575	.1305	.1080	.0855	.0675	.0495
.40	.2880	.2520	.2200	.1920	.1640	.1400	.1160	.0960	.0760	.0600	.0440
.35	.2520	.2205	.1925	.1680	.1435	.1225	.1015	.0840	.0665	.0525	.0385
.30	.2160	.1890	.1650	.1440	.1230	.1050	.0870	.0720	.0570	.0450	.0330
	\$0.36	.38	.40	.42	.44	.46	.48	.50	.52	.54	.56

### DIRECTIONS:

Read from right across from net price grower receives from wool to column over which is national average. The square where two lines meet will approximate incentive payment in cents per pound. This is to be added to net price received by grower in his wool sale to arrive at total price per pound for wool clip.

**Note:** The marketing costs of the grower, such as transportation, commission, etc., are deducted before the incentive payment is figured.

The national average will be determined after the marketing year or after March 31, 1956, and incentive payments will be made by the government shortly thereafter.



consumer food dollar this year probably will be about 41 cents, compared with 43 cents last year and more than 50 cents in "good" years for agriculture.

Retail food prices this year are down from last year by only one per cent, although farm prices are currently off an average of about seven per cent.

Feed industry leaders point out that consumer demand for more "convenience foods" and built-in kitchen service account for much of the increase in marketing charges. Their transportation and labor costs are higher. USDA points out also that "net profits of firms manufacturing food, tobacco and textile products were larger in the first half of 1955 than in the same period of the previous year."

Mr. Benson himself has indicated that he thinks at least a few processors and distributors are profiting more than they should "at the expense" of the farmer.

USDA, meantime, has been giving more attention to the problem of market margins. With extra funds voted in the last session of Congress a USDA study is now under way to

show how margins have gone up or down for various major commodities between 1945 and the present.

Ruling out war-induced peak farm prices of 1951 and taking the late 1940's for a base, the farmer's prices are down about 15 per cent. His costs, meantime, have gone up 12 per cent.

Things probably will get some worse for the farmer before they get better, in the view of most economists. At the Agriculture Department's Annual Outlook Conference late in November, economists from across the country summed it up about like this: Farm prices next year probably won't be any better than this, and may go lower. Production costs, meantime, may be still higher. With this year's record total of agricultural output, the supply situation will become worse. The Agriculture Department, with more than \$7 billion of stocks now on its hands, may be taking over a whopping total of \$10 billion worth of "surpluses" before long.

Still more aggressive selling at home and abroad can help, but will not solve the immediate problem, according to the economists.

## WOOL SUPERIORITY EMPHASIZED

THE SUPERIORITY of wool in virtually all of its traditional uses is becoming more firmly established in the minds of the consuming public than ever before. One reason for this is the fact that synthetics have been used and proved to be sadly lacking some of wool's accepted qualities. The public has had an opportunity to compare and this has been most definitely in favor of wool. Wool advertising has emphasized wool's superiority and hit the public when it has been most receptive.

In 1955 it is expected that the world-wide demand for wool will catch up with the supply—a favorable situation which should show immediate beneficial effect upon the wool market. Especially in the United States the wool consumption is likely to accelerate and eventually reflect more material strengthening of wool prices.

Frank McMullan, Sr., and Frank, Jr., have sold 1,700 head of lambs to Leroy Russell, San Angelo dealer. Russell also bought 1,100 lambs from John Reed, Sterling City. Price was around 16½ to 17 cents per pound, and weights from 75- to 90-pound range.

Edgar Wilkinson of San Angelo, operator of the Rocking Chair ranch, bought 800 yearling ewes at \$16 per head to put on this ranch near San Angelo. Ewes weighed about 100 pounds.

Wesley Wooden sold out of his registered Corriedale sheep-raising business November 12 at Davis, California. He averaged \$54 on 188 head of registered animals and \$26 per head on 56 registered ewes bred to Hampshire rams. The top-selling ram brought \$300. The buyer was Dick Lebhart of Tipton, Iowa.

In 1955 it is estimated the average American will eat his weight in meat. Too little of this meat, according to informed sheep people, is lamb.

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## LITTLE CHORES ARE MIGHTY IMPORTANT

# Management of the Farm Flock

By JOE H. DIXON

IT HAS many times been said that sheep do very well without much care or attention, and perhaps this is a fact up to a certain point, but it has been my experience that you are always well repaid for any kind of extra attention you may give your flock.

As the winter months approach, most farmers have more time to work with their livestock, and on bad, stormy days many odd jobs can be taken care of and the flock can be inspected at close range. At this time a sheep shed can come in very handy and if this is not available, chances are you can pen your flock in some section of your barn. While working with your flock it is well to pen them in fairly close quarters, where they can be caught and handled without running them any more than necessary.

### Tag Ewes Before Lambing

While a good many fall lambs are already on the ground, there are still many flocks that will lamb through December and the early winter months. It is always a good practice, while you have your ewes in the lot

of shed, to take a pair of sheep shears and trim the soiled loose wool and tag the ewes around the dock, before lambing if possible.

While you have hold of each ewe it is also a good time to check their eyes and trim away any wool that might be causing wool blindness. Then set the ewe on her rump and check to see if she needs any wool removed near her udder that would help the newborn lamb to nurse more readily. If there are any grass burrs or stickers close to the udder be sure to take time to see that they are removed, for this may help to prevent the lamb from getting sore eyes.

### Keep Hoofs Trimmed on the Flock

I have always felt it a sensible and practical plan to check the hoofs on your flock occasionally. While you have the ewe set up on end, look at her hoofs and see if they need trimming. With a sharp jackknife or hoof trimmers it is a simple matter to trim the hoofs to where the sheep will not only look better but will also enable her to travel much better. It seems to me that some breeds of sheep grow longer hoofs than others, and nothing on a sheep looks worse to me than hoofs from four to six inches long.

I have seen many good-looking ewes in the lot with "sled runners," as I call them, and have wondered why the owner did not take a few minutes' time to trim them. Even in the show ring you still see many sheep with untrimmed hoofs that have been sadly neglected. Of course, some sheep are just naturally down or bad on their pasterns, but untrimmed hoofs surely does not help matters any. Perhaps it is because I have showed a good many sheep that I am a bit cranky about their feet, but I do think that all good livestock men watch the feet

on their animals so they may stand and travel properly.

Of course, there are flocks that run over rough, hilly country, where there are lots of stones and rocks that keep their hoofs worn off to a large extent.

### Wool Maggots and Screwworms

Wet or filthy spots in the fleece and open wounds in the skin many times attract the maggot fly in warm weather. This generally takes place when the flock is in full fleece and in the spring before shearing time. Rainy, wet weather sometimes helps to bring this condition about. Eggs are laid in the wet soiled parts of the wool and are hatched out in a matter of hours. Maggots then eat their way through the skin and into the flesh.

Most sheep infested with wool worms or maggots appear restless, and try to bite or reach for the affected part with their mouth. To treat sheep infested with maggots it is well to clip away all the wet soiled wool. Then wash the wound well and apply "Smear 62." This not only will kill the worms or maggots but at the same time acts as a fly repellent and helps the wound to heal. "Smear 62" can be obtained at almost any livestock supply company and at many drug stores.

The screwworm that works itself into the lower corner of the eye is very dangerous, and causes the sheep much worry and suffering. It seems to me that the extremely hot months of July, August and September are the months when the screwworm can do the most damage. Inspect your flock closely at this season of the year, and apply "Smear 62" to the open wounds at once, if you notice a round opening at the corner of the lower end of the eye. Generally a discharge will come from the wound, and flies and gnats will be working around the eye. Repeat the application every couple of days until you are satisfied the wound is healed.

### Protect Your Flock from Dogs

In many sections of Texas and the Southwest dogs, and even coyotes, have proved to be a considerable menace to the sheep producer. Some sections of the country have little or no trouble with sheep-killing dogs, while others have been put out of business in a short time. Some stockmen seem to think that dogs do their most damage to flocks during the

cold winter months when the weather is bad and they are extremely hungry. However, this is not always the case, and on different occasions have been known to attack and do considerable damage at almost any time of the year.

Many kinds of protection have been used against stray dogs, and some of them have proved quite adequate at times. A high dog-proof lot with a good woven wire fence around it and several barbed wires stretched tightly around the top of the woven wire will help protect the flock at night. A tight strand of barbed wire around the bottom of the fence will also prove beneficial. Some farmers rely on a good shotgun or old "Betsy" to keep strange dogs out of their pastures with good success. Some put out poison bait for the dogs.

Other flock owners use bells on a few of the ewe flock. Some say the bells will scare and run off the dogs. At least it seems this plan might help.

(Continued on page 20)

## SCREWORM RESEARCH TO CONTINUE

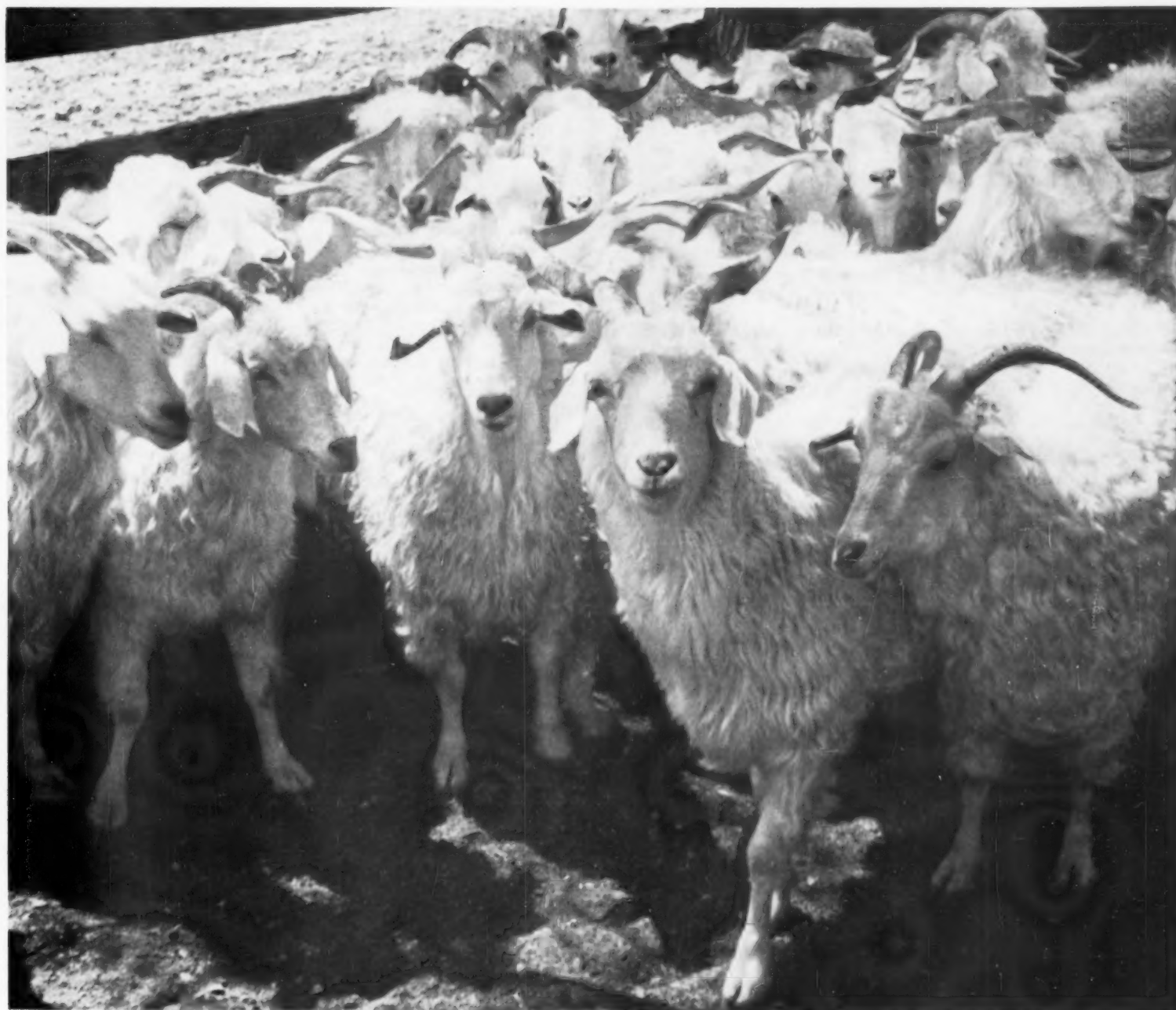
USDA SAYS it will need at least two more years of research to decide if mass release of sterile male screwworm flies over Florida is worth a try as a practical means of ridding the southeastern states of this destructive pest.

The small Caribbean island of Curacao was cleared of screwworms in an experiment ended last January, in which great numbers of sterile male flies were released over the island. This successful experiment might be used to control or eradicate this pest of livestock in Florida, but there are problems, essentially those of mass production.

It would mean covering 50,000 square miles instead of 170; distributing 50,000,000 sterile flies a week instead of 200,000; establishing and operating large rearing laboratories; recruiting and training numbers of entomologists, instead of the half-dozen workers as in Curacao.

Screwworms each year cause about a \$10,000,000 loss in southeastern livestock. From eggs laid on animal wounds, maggots hatch that eat into the live flesh. Screwworms normally overwinter only in Florida and the Southwest.





## ***Looking Forward...***

With a background of many years of achievement, the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association continues to look to the future for even greater developments for the industry.

You will find the Fort Worth Banks and their correspondents always ready to work right along with you in your program for the advancement of the wool and mohair business.

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# SOME PERTINENT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR THE RANCHMAN'S CONSIDERATION

## Are We Using All the Tools?

By DR. J. C. MILLER  
Head, Department of Animal Husbandry  
A&M College of Texas

MUCH HAS been said and more has been written since 1950 about the plight of the sheep and goat industry. On every hand one reads or hears complaints of declining numbers, falling prices, fear of further reduction of wool tariffs, increased competition from wool substitutes, discrimination against domestic wools and failure of buyers to pay a fair

premium for quality and their efforts to discourage marketing on a graded basis.

It is true that the sheep and goat industry has experienced some hard blows and that producers have suffered serious financial losses in the last 10 years through no fault of their own. Shortage of skilled labor, increasing cost of labor, feed, ma-

chinery, fencing and all of the costs of production plus record-breaking drouths have combined to put a serious crimp in the industry. All producers have suffered financial loss, and unless they were cushioned by adequate reserves, some to the extent of bankruptcy. They deserve sympathy and all the help they can get from any source. Even the best operators cannot survive prolonged periods of price decline and drouth at the same time.

If anything good can come out of a set of adverse circumstances such as the sheep and goat industry has experienced during the past decade, it is the realization that we must tighten our belts and look for ways and means to improve our operations in order to survive. The period of good years preceding the bad ones encouraged abuses of our ranges, inefficiencies, poor management and careless operation throughout.

Without reference to any industry it is a safe bet to say that we as mod-

erns in this mid-20th Century have been softened, spoiled or ruined by the very fruits of our own efforts. Two or more cars per family, all the modern gadgets, clothes, movies, TV, and whatnots are the rule rather than the exception. Even Junior must have a new car while he is in college so that he can drive many miles each week end for recreation and entertainment. We fail to appreciate the hardships and sacrifices of our forefathers who tamed this country of ours that we might enjoy all of our expensive living habits.

Modern society is highly complex and will become more so in the future. No segment of our society can thrive or suffer without affecting others. We are dependent and interdependent on one another as never before. We cannot enjoy the luxuries of 1955 without losing some of the freedom and independence we enjoyed a generation ago.

The real danger is that this life of luxury we lead will result in our losing a great deal more than our independence — namely, our resourcefulness, our initiative and self-respect. We have seen this happen in some of the older countries and it is a natural consequence of a complex society unless we are strong enough to avoid being destroyed by the fruits of our own labors.

Many of our problems are beyond the power of man to solve, but let's don't fail to utilize all of the known measures available to us in search of the solution to our problems before throwing in the towel. By way of illustration, a few questions might be listed which we should ask ourselves as a means of self-analysis.

1. Are we keeping ourselves informed on matters of local, state and national importance as it affects the industry we represent?
2. Are we fulfilling our obligation and our responsibility in helping our association to find the solution to our problems?
3. Are we contributing our share of the dues necessary to promote the activities of our association in its efforts on our behalf?
4. Are we using all the information at our command in the management of our farms and ranches, the conservation of our grass and water, proper



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stocking rate and range management practices?

5. Are we practicing the best-known methods of flock improvement and flock management?

6. Are we keeping records of production of lamb, wool and mohair, and are we making full use of those records in our selection of breeding stock? The best answer to this question might be to ask one's self if his lambs, wool and mohair produced per animal is on the increase or decrease.

7. Are we contributing our share of funds to the promotion of lamb, wool and mohair? No other major commodity has been able to compete in our modern competitive society without its share of promotion through advertising.

8. Are we doing our share to help educate the general public to the problems of the producer of lamb, wool and mohair? This is the only means by which we can improve our public relations with the consuming public. We must not lose sight of the fact that numbers of producers of all agricultural commodities are going down rapidly in proportion to our total buying public. Our rural population today makes up only about 13 per cent of our national population. We must exert every effort to improve our relations with the buying public if we expect any help through legislation, because we are a minority group.

9. Are we making full use of the help offered by the Extension Service in the sheep and goat improvement program?

10. Are we doing everything we can to prepare our wool and mohair

for market so that it will bring the highest possible dollar?

11. Are we making full use of shrinkage tests made available to us through state and commercial testing laboratories and made possible by the coring test?

12. Are we still selecting rams on the basis of their appearance or are we using records of performance as a means of selection? The only true measure of the value of a sire is in the performance of his offspring. Such measures are available, and can be put to use on any farm or ranch if we will keep the necessary records.

13. Are we getting a 100 per cent lamb crop, and if not, are we doing everything possible to reach that goal?

14. Are we making full use of all the information from the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, the Extension Service and other agricultural agencies applicable to our production, management and marketing problems?

Two things determine the net profit on any given enterprise, namely the price received when the product is sold and, secondly, the cost of producing it. There is not much we can do about the price we receive for our products when we market them if we have done our best to produce a quality product, but there is a great deal we can do about the cost of producing it. In periods of adversity such as we have been experiencing in the sheep and goat business for the past several years, the least we can do is to make full use of every possible avenue for lowering costs of production through the application of all known tools in the fields of improved breeding stock; improved methods of feeding and management; the use of best available practices on range management, soil and water conservation; disease and parasite control and marketing. Let's make sure we are doing our best in this respect before we call for help from outside. Support of local, state and national organizations for self-helping our business and promoting our industry through education and improved public relations will go a long way toward solving some of our present embarrassing problems.

### 'FANNY' SIMPSON IS HONORED

LIVESTOCK producers and meat processors honored F. M. (Fanny) Simpson at a dinner November 27 in Chicago. His portrait will be placed in the gallery of the Saddle and Sirlon Club. Simpson, now a professor of agricultural economics at Clemson College, was formerly head of the agricultural research department of Swift and Company. He made friends with countless livestock producers throughout the nation. He retired in 1952 and was succeeded by Tom Glaze.

The 33-section ranch leased by the late John Fogarty from the Shannon Estate has been leased by Charlie Black of Ozona. He let go 17 sections which he had been leasing to George Bunker and Plez Childress of Ozona.

## Management

(Continued from page 18)

attract the owner's attention to the fact that something was disturbing his flock. Others say that a good, well-trained sheep dog is the answer to the problem. Some owners claim that a well-trained sheep dog will fight until death in protecting the flock.

I have always felt it unwise to leave dead animals in the pasture. They should be removed or buried at once for there is no doubt but what they help to attract hungry and stray dogs when not disposed of.

### Most Problems Can Be Solved

Sure, there are many important problems that confront the sheep raiser at different times throughout the year, but it would be foolhardy to think that nothing ever happens to a flock of sheep. They are susceptible to disease just like any other kind of livestock. But the well-managed flock on the whole has little cause for complaint when compared to the diseases common to other kind of livestock. Most troubles common among sheep when diagnosed can be handled with little or no loss to the owner. One thing that will help the flock owner immensely is to learn to detect trouble in your flock before it becomes too severe. With a little experience you will soon learn to do this.

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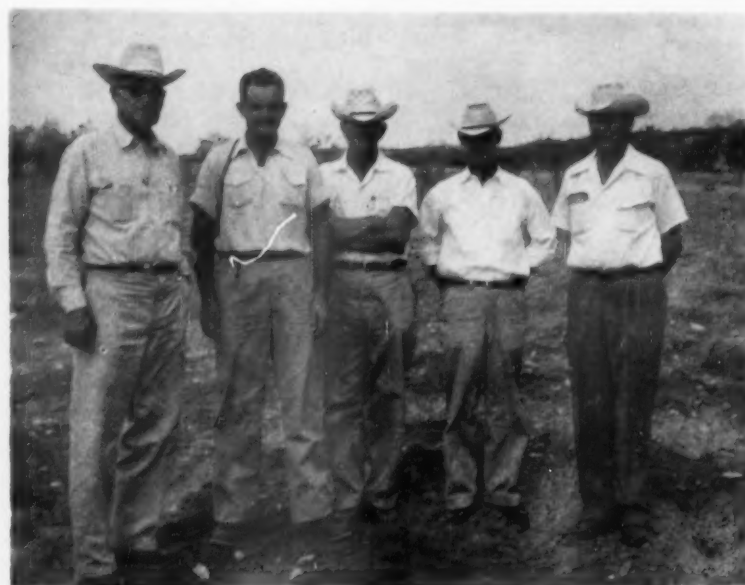
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Deep valley soil, practically devoid of grass, as it appeared after pitting and seeding on April 6, 1955. Pits should be at least five inches deep, and from 36 to 48 inches between rows of pits.

Same area as above on September 1, 1955. Pits filled 14 times from small showers, wetting pits from eight to 12 inches deep. Note that practically all grass is in pits.



Edwards Plateau Soil Conservation District supervisors discuss revegetation problems on the district trial area with Yaaqov Orev, Israel. Left to right are Supervisors Fred T. Earwood, Orev, W. B. McMillan, Frank Bond and Joe B. Ross. The fifth supervisor, Edwin E. Sawyer, was not present.

THEY STUDIED ALL THE ANGLES . . .

## Range Pitting Aids Grass Growth

By E. B. KENG  
Soil Conservation Service  
Sonora, Texas

ARE THE benefits from range pitting worth the cost? Is it practical to seed bare rangeland? Will resting alone bring back our drouth-stricken ranges?

With five years of record-breaking drouth still in progress supervisors of the Edwards Plateau Conservation District were asking these and other questions. They were particularly concerned with the tremendous acreage of drouth-ravished rangeland in the district, and with how quickly it could be revegetated when the rains came.

Supervisor Fred T. Earwood proposed that the district lease a typical pasture to try out various conservation practices. The board of supervisors, including Joe B. Ross, Edwin Sawyer, W. B. McMillan and Frank Bond, all of them practical ranchmen, readily agreed with the suggestion.

In September, 1954, the district leased a 367-acre pasture for a three-year period from Herbert Fields. The trap met most of the requirements the supervisors had in mind—close to town, practically bare, included valley land and hill land, bitterweed, mesquite, an old field—and, in general,

very typical of most of the land in the district. Livestock were removed from the area in September, 1954.

In April, 1955, various conservation measures were started—in the face of continued drouth. The Sutton County 4-H Club boys and Boy Scouts assisted in seeding approximately half the area to a mixture of sidecoats grama, KR bluestem, blue panic and buffelgrass.

Some 50 acres of denuded valley land were pitted and seeded with a grass seed drill. A few acres were pitted and seeded by hand with a native mixture harvested on the Thomas Morris ranch near Balmorhea. Several areas were drilled to grass without pitting. Wire diversions were built to spread water from small draws to adjacent valley land.

The first beneficial rains fell on May 10, and rainfall was fairly well distributed throughout the summer. Grass seed germinated immediately in the pitted areas, and subsequent showers helped keep it alive and growing. To date in 1955 14.27 inches, or some four inches less than normal rainfall, have been received.

Practically bare valley land as it appeared April 6, 1955. Area pitted and drilled to mixture of two pounds sidecoats grama, one pound KR bluestem, one pound buffelgrass and one-half pound blue panic per acre.

On September 1, 1955, after 10.66 inches of rain from May 10 to September 1. The pits held the rain and enabled rapid growth. This area received some runoff water from one rain of 2.10 inches in July.



Excellent progress in recovery has been made on pitted and seeded valley land. Seed drilled or sowed by hand on unpitted valley land germinated in July but died in August. Seed broadcast on rocky hills germinated well and the plants are now producing a few seed.

With complete deferment range recovery from native vegetation has been remarkable on hilly land, but very slow on deep soils. Rainfall has been largely showers which failed to penetrate deep, bare soils. Pits have filled 14 times since May 10, which insured establishment of grass on pitted land. Typical one-inch showers penetrated bare, unpitted flats approximately two inches, while wetting pits from eight to 12 inches deep.

Only a start has been made in finding answers to range revegetation and conservation problems, but the district supervisors are well pleased with results obtained to date. On a recent

inspection tour of the area, Fred Earwood stated, "I believe the project has already been worth more than its cost." District supervisors from all over West Texas recently held a meeting at Sonora and examined the trial area. All were impressed with the progress made and complimented the Edwards Plateau district supervisors on their initiation of a project to help local ranchers.

Under the guidance of the rancher-supervisors all local agricultural agencies have worked together on the project. The Sutton County ASC Committee furnished cost-sharing assistance on seeding and wire diversions. Sutton County Agent D. C. Langford and his 4-H Club boys and Scoutmaster Earl Smith and the Sonora Boy Scouts helped plant the seed. Leo Merrill, Experiment Station range specialist, and E. B. Keng, Soil Conservation Service technician, furnished planning and other technical assistance.



Pitting made the difference between grass and bare ground. Area to right of road was seeded to same mixture of sideoats grama, KR bluestem, buffelgrass and blue panic on the same day as area to left. Rains totaling 12.07 inches to September 1 failed to produce either grass or weeds on the bare strip. Neither area receives extra runoff water.

Charles Davenport, SCS technician, examines green sprangletop on an area which was pitted and seeded broadcast to a native grass mixture harvested on the Thomas Morriss ranch near Balmorhea. A good stand of sideoats, hairy and blue grama, cane bluestem, cottontop and sprangletop are now seeding. Area was practically bare until first rain on May 10, 1955.

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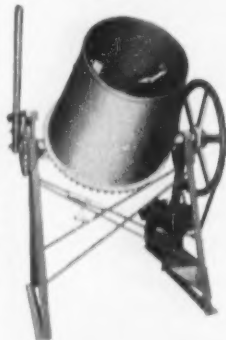
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Boss: "I had to fire my new stenographer."

Clerk: "Didn't she have any experience?"

Boss: "None at all. I told her to sit down and she looked around for a chair."

Jones: "I saw a young man trying to kiss your daughter last night."

Smith: "Did he succeed?"

Jones: "No!"

Smith: "Then it wasn't my daughter."

Autumn is when an unwatched boy, raking, leaves.

"I can't give a license for your daughter to get married," the clerk explained. "You see, your daughter's only 15."

"Ah knows that," the mother protested, "but what's we going to do? She's old enough to know what she's done did."

After considerable search, a little boy and girl located a knothole in the high board fence surrounding a nudist colony.

"Gee, look at the people," said the lad.

"Are they men or women?"

"Can't tell. They don't have any clothes on."

A young lady, with a touch of hay fever, took with her to a dinner party two handkerchiefs, one of which she stuck in her bosom. At dinner she began rummaging to right and left in her bosom for the fresh handkerchief. Engrossed in her search, she suddenly realized that the conversation had ceased and people were watching her, fascinated.

In confusion she murmured, "I know I had two when I came."

The brain is a wonderful organ. It starts working the moment you get up in the morning, and does not stop until you get up to talk.

"With a car like that," the service station operator told a customer who had stopped in for some repairs, "if you ever stop the cops will think it's an accident."

A little boy went to school for the first time last week and the teacher explained to him that if he wanted to go to the washroom at any time he should raise two fingers.

Little boy, looking very puzzled: "How's that going to stop it?"

To spoil children is to deceive them concerning life; life herself does not spoil us.

As the two ranchers stood before the judge, His Honor spoke: "You two fellows should be ashamed of yourselves for being brought into court to settle a fence boundary. Why couldn't you be sensible and settle this matter out of court?"

"That's just what we were doing," replied one, "until the sheriff pulled us apart."

A woman wrote to her doctor: "Come in and see my husband soon. It's his head. He has had it off and on for two days. Just now he is holding it in his hands between his knees."

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The scene opens with a Russian peasant wife, cooing with a Minsk-Pinsk accent over the cradle of her infant child. The door burst open and comes in—the soldier husband who has been away to the wars for two solid years. Eyeing the baby and doing a little simple arithmetic on his fingers, the husband sees all and goes into a towering rage.

"Who does this to me?" he roars. "Which one of my traitorous friends? Tell me, and I will cut his heart out! Was it Ivan?"

"Nu," says the wife, coyly.

"Was it Dimitri?"

"Nu."

"Serge?"

"Nu."

"Boris?"

"Nu."

"Not Ivan! Not Dimitri! Not Serge! Not Boris!" raged the husband. "From who you think you're kiddink? These are the only men I know left in this village!"

To that the wife, who has never ceased rocking the cradle, looks up and with a batting of her eyelashes answers, "Dollink, DON'T YOU TINK I GOT SOME FRIENDS OF MY OWN?"

No man is truly poor until he cannot laugh.

"Smoke?"

"No."

"Drink?"

"Naw."

"D'ye eat hay?"

"Nope."

"Gosh, woman, you ain't a fit companion for man or beast."

It's the fish that opens mouth, that gets into trouble.

The elevator was jammed with people. As it neared the fourth floor there was a piercing scream. All eyes were focused on a large woman wearing slacks. A small boy stood directly behind her.

"I did it," he announced defiantly. "It was in my face, so I bit it!"

A real friend is a friend who understands us and still is.

A woman wrote to her best friend from a very lonely rural spot: "My sister and I aren't really lonely out here. We have each other to speak to. But we need another woman to talk about."

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# Phenothiazine Mix Aid in Control of Cattle Parasites

By DR. A. C. TODD

Dr. A. C. Todd, Department of Veterinary Science, University of Wisconsin, recently declared in a talk before the Wisconsin Nutrition School for feed men that while "there are no acceptable treatments for lungworm and whipworm infection in cattle . . . one drug, phenothiazine, is effective against the majority of the roundworm parasites."

### Subclinical Infections

Because severe clinical infections rarely occur in northern herds the important type of worm infection in cattle is overlooked, and so far greater production losses result. When parasitologists speak of subclinical infections they mean chronic insidious infections entirely characteristic of the relationship between cattle and their worm parasites.

MORE THAN 20 kinds of worm parasites affect cattle in the north central area of the United States. Contrary to widespread opinion the climate in this area does not limit infections. In fact, the northern winter evidently is indirectly responsible for the maintenance of the infections since during this season cattle are closely confined over long periods of time in barns where repeated exposure to infection occurs.

In general, parasitologists distinguish two types of worm infection based upon the effects on a given animal. A clinical worm parasite infection in cattle is evident from the external appearance of the host. Animals with clinical infections give evidence of anemia, which is reflected in the appearance of visible membranes. The animals develop rough hair coats, become emaciated and have a history of acute diarrhea.

In the absence of diarrhea, signs of clinical parasitism resemble starvation and a misdiagnosis of the condition is possible unless worm eggs are identified in manure passed by affected animals. This type of severe infection is frequently accompanied by death losses, particularly in young animals, although the actual cause of death is all too frequently recorded as a pneumonia. In many instances an infectious pneumonia develops as a secondary condition in greatly weakened animals.

Subclinical infection is best identified by the animal characterized as a "poor doer." These animals are delayed in reaching maturity and they fail to convert their feed efficiently in comparison to a normal, healthy animal. The heifers are difficult to settle. Subclinical parasitic infection escapes identification unless a diagnosis is made based upon the presence of worm eggs in manure passed by the animal.

In essence, subclinical parasitic infection is a condition of digestive disturbance. It is upon the basis of possible improvement in feed conversion that the great strides in preventive parasite control have been made in the north central area in the past few years.

It is true that not all of the worms which affect northern cattle can be successfully removed and controlled by preventive treatment. There are no acceptable treatments for lungworm and whipworm infection in cattle. The importance of tapeworm infection in northern cattle is not widely understood even though drugs are available which will control this important parasitic infection.

On the other hand one drug, phenothiazine, is effective against the majority of the roundworm parasites in northern cattle. Parasitologists at the Wisconsin Experiment Station, working in cooperation with departments of animal and dairy husbandry, have

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been concerned in the past few years with establishing phenothiazine as a preventive treatment for the majority of the worm parasites in cattle.

#### Phenothiazine Use Varies

The manner in which the drug is used must be related to the type of production at a given farm, and different systems are used depending upon whether the herd to receive treatment is a commercial beef herd, a group of feeder animals or a dairy herd. It should be emphasized as well that the absolute direction of worm parasite control in a given herd must rest with the local veterinarian.

When phenothiazine is used to cure severe infection only two dosages are used and these are based upon the weight of the animal to be treated. Curative treatments are not used in the presence of other infections or conditions which would contraindicate anthelmintic treatment.

The standard dose of phenothiazine for an infected mature cow is two ounces. The drug is administered on a dry weight basis in tablets or capsules. In the instance of liquid suspension the amount of the drug remains constant but the actual amount of suspension used is dependent upon the commercial preparation at hand. The full therapeutic dose for animals weighing less than 400 pounds is one ounce of the drug administered under the same conditions.

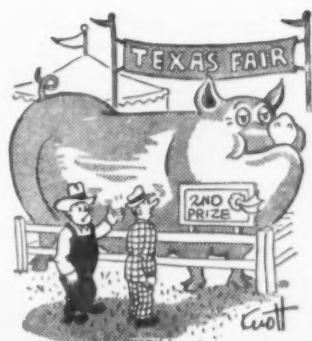
The new development in the control of worm parasites in cattle is the insistence on the part of parasitologists that the drug be used in a regular routine of preventive treatment. Excellent preventive results can be obtained when cattle are fed two-gram daily doses of phenothiazine in their feed each day. It is upon this basis that a number of feed companies have recently introduced their feeds medicated with phenothiazine.

The two-gram daily dose should not be construed as a magic figure. The phenothiazine intake may well vary from one to three grams daily with perfect safety and with satisfactory results, provided only that the two-gram dose is present on average. There are no contra-indications to such a system of preventive treatment in any form of cattle except in cows in actual milk production.

#### Other Methods

In many instances, and with reference to commercial beef herds and to young dairy animals on pasture in particular, other arrangements have been made so that preventive phenothiazine therapy can be employed. It is possible to mix phenothiazine in salt minerals and allow cattle to consume the mixture free choice. It is known that this method of administration is not so efficient as is a two-gram daily dose in grain since salt mineral consumption is linked very closely to the succulence of the pasture. Improvement of the palatability of the salt mineral mixture can be obtained when a palatable carrier is added to the mixture along with the phenothiazine. The most successful of these carriers have been various expelled and cold-processed molasses.

It has been customary in the past to recommend that the salt-mineral-phenothiazine mixture be a loose one in



"Wait 'till you see the one that won first prize."

order that consumption may be increased. In the past two years new, soft salt-mineral phenothiazine blocks have come on the market and certainly these are known to be as useful as the loose mixture.

#### Palatability Problem

It should be recorded here that the mixture of phenothiazine into a beef or dairy feed certainly has resulted in a palatability problem. Cattle can be accustomed to the taste of phenothiazine when they are brought slowly to the daily two-gram intake. A number of companies overcome the palatability problem by using a sweet feed.

Full therapeutic treatment of cattle (two ounces of the drug per animal) can be accomplished in as little as three days using one particular commercial brand of feed. The amount of the medicated feed is then reduced in order to continue animals on a two-gram daily dose. In another feed 15 days is required to introduce the full 60 grams of phenothiazine into cattle, following which the amount of medicated feed is reduced in order to maintain the animals on a two-gram daily dose.

This is to say that there is disagreement concerning the length of time required to introduce a full therapeutic dose of phenothiazine efficiently. These two particular feeds have met with outstanding success in their areas.

The emphasis upon medicating feeds with phenothiazine is deliberate in that preventive treatment is accomplished most efficiently in this manner. A program of preventive parasite control is a logical development in the north central area of the United States where the farms produce a finished market product whether it be beef or milk. Because of this tradition of careful attention to feed quality parasitologists anticipate that preventive parasite control and resultant more efficient production will first be accomplished in this area.

If you ever have insomnia, you should know how a poor cow feels. Cows never sleep or get near to sleep for more than five minutes at a time, states the British National Institute of Dairying Research. The reason, it is believed, is that if a cow lies on her side for more than a minute or two, the workings of her stomach are interrupted and she develops indigestion. To rest, the cow must sit down, and even then she must keep her head up.

Oklahoma Sixth Annual . . .

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# Shall We Core Test?

By T. D. WATKINS, JR.  
Animal Husbandry Department  
Texas A&M College

DUE TO declining wool prices and drouth-retarded ranges, Texas wool growers must use every means at their command to realize maximum income from their flocks. Such means may consist of good management, selection and culling; use of good rams, and receiving top prices for replacement stock, lambs and wool.

With respect to wool, it is common knowledge that staple length, grade and pounds of wool are selling factors. Should the grower not be able to classify his clip according to grade and staple length, he can obtain assistance in preparing his clip from his county agent, the State Extension Service, or in some instances his warehouseman. However, at the present, these agencies are not in a position to give the grower an unbiased, relatively accurate estimate of the shrinkage of his clip. Yet, grease wool is bought and sold on the basis of its clean wool content. Do you, the producer, know how much your clip shrinks? Does the buyer? If there is reasonable doubt, then how well do we really know what our wool is justly worth?

There is a method, the core test, which will provide an unbiased estimate for providing ranchers with this information. Along with current market quotations, an accurate shrinkage evaluation minus the costs of transporting the clip from the ranch to the market should place the producer in a better position for selling his wool. Knowing his commodity, the grade, shrink and length, places him in a bargaining position. Without this knowledge he is at the mercy of the buyer who might, just possibly, overestimate the shrinkage of the clip because estimates are not accurate.

Several questions can logically be asked about the core test. These questions, which will be dealt with in proper sequence, are as follows:

1. What is the core test?
2. Is this test reliable?
3. How does this test compare with appraiser estimates and with mill shrink on the same lots of wool?
5. How much do overestimates in shrinkage cost the producer?
6. How can we have our clips core tested?

The core test is a method for sampling bales or bags of wool according to a designated pattern, the purpose of which is to determine the shrinkage of a given lot of wool. Shrinkage of grease wool may be defined as being that amount of material other than pure wool fiber which is contained in a clip or a line of wool. The coring device, Figure 1, may consist of a motor-driven hollow tube, having a cutting edge; or, in

the most recent experimental model, a simple pressure tube, the end of which is razor sharp. The tube is placed through triangular cuts in the wool bags and forced into the wool to the depth of the tube. The tube is then withdrawn and the cut wool therein forced into an airtight container.

Not all bags are sampled. The number of cores per bag and the number of bags cored depends upon the number of bags of wool in the clip.

This wool is subsequently scoured and its shrinkage determined by laboratory analysis. The technique for this process has been worked out by interlaboratory testing performed by the cooperating agencies of the American Society for Testing Materials. These cooperating laboratories represent the leading wool research organizations of the United States government, state experiment stations, mills and research foundations.

The reliability of this coring test was early established by research workers in the United States Customs Service Laboratory in Boston, Massachusetts. These men cored bales of Australian wool and Cape Merino wool from South America. The results of their work are in Table 1. Maximum differences between the per cent shrinkages of the

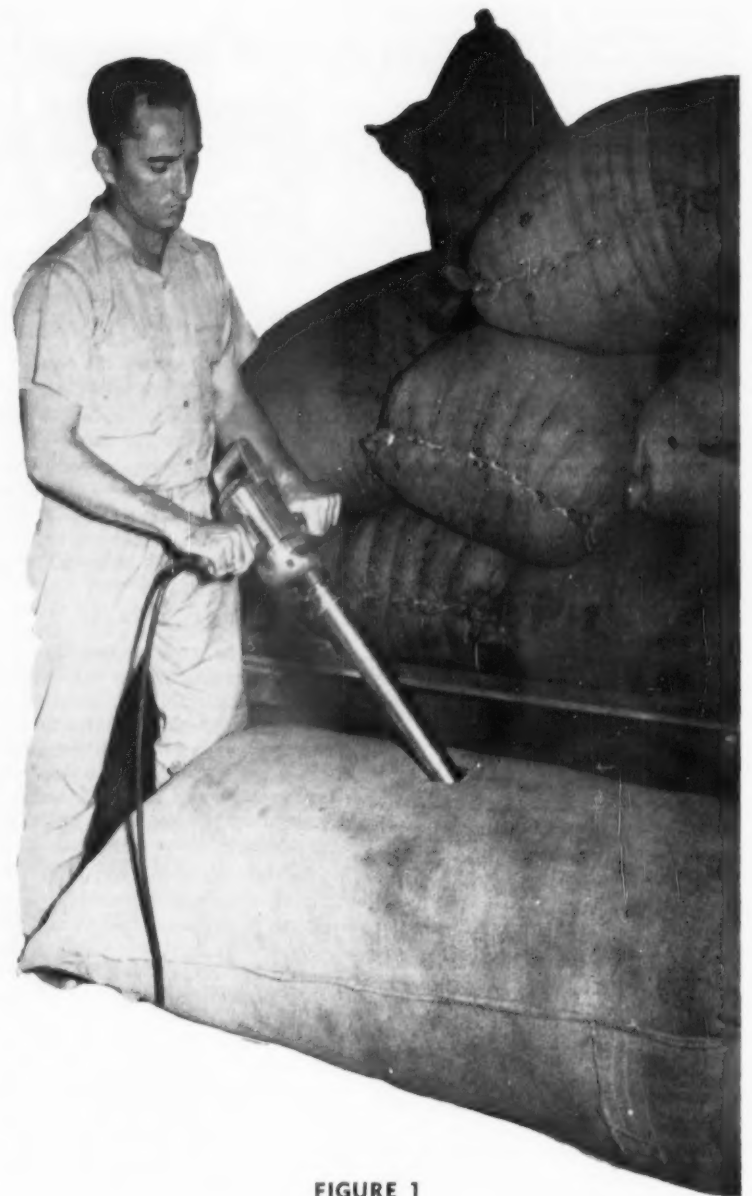


FIGURE 1

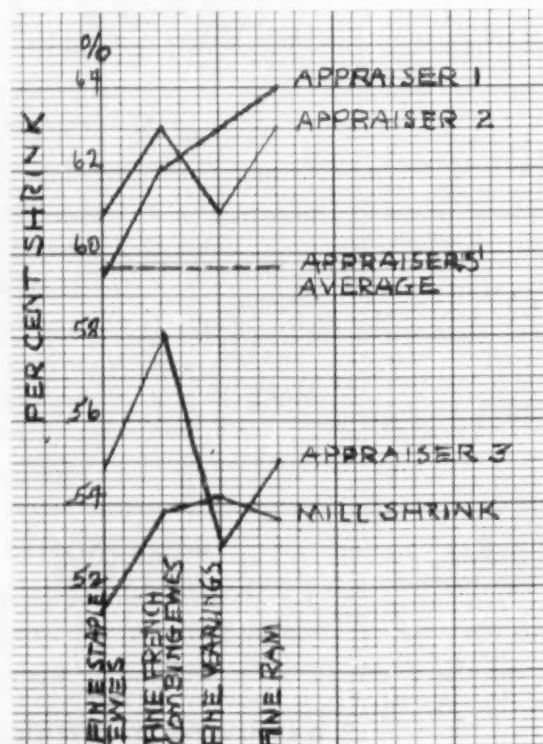


FIGURE 2

Comparison of Shrink on Four Lots of Fine Wool by Three Different Appraisers, Their Average, and Comparable Mill Shrink

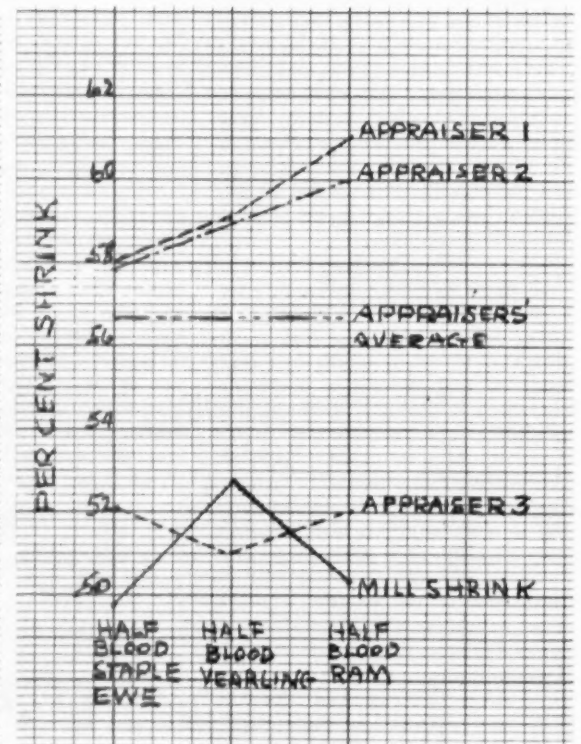


FIGURE 3

Comparison of Shrink on Three Lots of 1/2 Blood Wool by Three Different Appraisers, Their Average, and Comparable Mill Shrink



various cores amounted to one-half of one per cent—remarkable accuracy. This, then, being a reliable method, how does it compare with an actual mill shrinkage of those lots which were cored?

The Bureau of Customs research workers extended their work so as to compare the percentage clean content of core samples with that of entire lots of baled foreign wools. Condensing their results into Table 2, it may be noted that there was excellent agreement between the percentage clean contents of the core samples and the entire lots. The maximum difference between shrinkage as determined by the core test and that by the mill shrink was only 1.2 per cent, while the average difference was only 0.55 per cent.

It is recognized that the above difference would amount to quite a few pounds of clean wool; however, it should be clearly understood that the shrink as determined by mill scouring is none too accurate. Wool is not ordinarily weighed as it comes out of the drier at the end of the scouring process. No mill is equipped to weigh wool in this bulky condition. Likewise, the moisture content of the wool is extremely variable and we must resort to laboratory techniques for determining how much moisture, dirt and residual grease is left in the scoured wool. This technique is almost identical with that prescribed for analysis of the core samples. All these tests have a certain amount of error regardless of whether it is a core test, a mill shrink, or a visual appraisal. But how, then, do shrinkages as determined by well-qualified, experienced appraisers compare with mill shrink when core samples are taken upon the same appraised lots?

Inaccuracy of shrinkage value on various lots of wool purchased by the United States government early in World War II led to investigations to determine the relative accuracy of shrinkages as determined by the estimates of three qualified appraisers, when compared with mill shrinkages of the same lots.

Accordingly, on the 1944 clip produced by the United States Sheep

Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho, three appraisers estimated the percent shrinkage on 13 lots of wool varying in grade from fine staple to quarter blood. After their estimates were made, these same lots were scoured in order to compare the appraiser estimates with mill shrink. Since an insignificant quantity of quarter blood is produced in Texas, the data from the three lots of wool representing this grade have been omitted from Figures 2, 3, 4 and 5. The graphs shown in the above figures clearly show that in some instances unbiased appraisers are sometimes highly inaccurate. For instance in Figure 2, Fine Wool, the average shrinkage appraisal is approximately six per cent higher than the mill shrink; and in Figure 3, six per cent higher. This difference is again reflected in Figure 5. It is noteworthy in the latter graph that the difference in the per cent shrinkage of the average appraisal estimate and that of the mill shrink is a reflection of loss in net income to the grower.

As may be noted in Figures 2, 3 and 4 it is not unreasonable to believe that an appraiser working by himself could either under- or over-estimate the shrinkage of a given line of graded wool as much as five per cent. To illustrate how much net income a wool grower could lose from a five per cent overestimate in shrink, refer to the market quotation of October 28, 1955, for Texas, original bag, Fine Staple and French combing wools, \$1.27 per pound, clean basis. Let us assume that you, the wool grower, are marketing 10,000 pounds of wool on the above basis. This would amount to a loss in net income as follows:

10,000 pounds X 0.05, or 500 pounds lost by five per cent overestimate in shrinkage.

500 pounds X \$1.27, or \$635.00 loss of net income.

Collectively, Texas markets about 24,000,000 pounds of clean scoured wool per year. Overestimates similar to the foregoing would amount to the loss of \$1,500,000 in net income to the producers of our state each and every year. Such losses can be minimized simply by making use of

the core test method for determining shrinkage. This method is relatively accurate, it favorably compares with mill shrink. On the basis of sound research, it has been found to be more accurate than the estimates of well-qualified appraisers, representatives of the industry.

Two reputable testing companies do field coring. One of these companies, the U. S. Testing Company,

has offices and laboratory in San Angelo.

The core test provides an additional means for the wool grower to better know his clip in order to be in a bargaining position when selling his clip. Do not be caught in the position of contributing your part to the one and one-half million dollars annual net loss due to overestimated shrinkage of your clip.

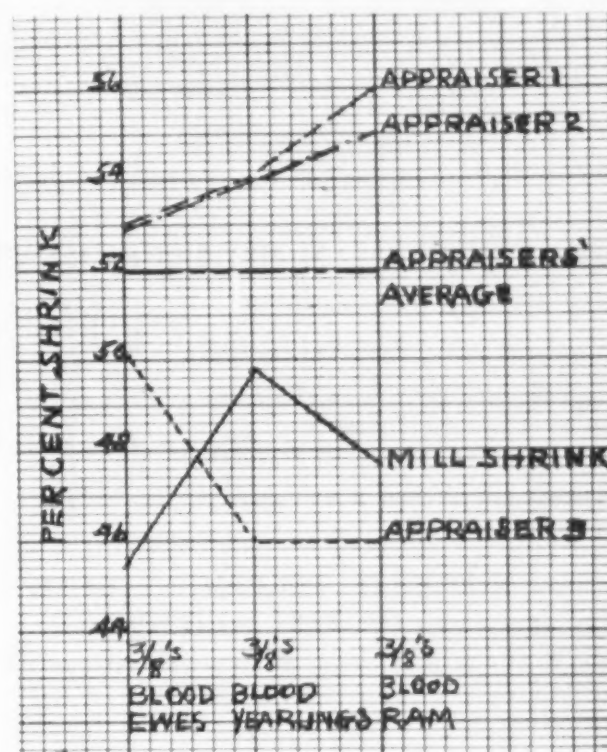


FIGURE 4

Comparison of Shrink on Three Lots  $\frac{3}{8}$ 's Blood Wool by Three Different Appraisers, Their Average, and Comparable Mill Shrink

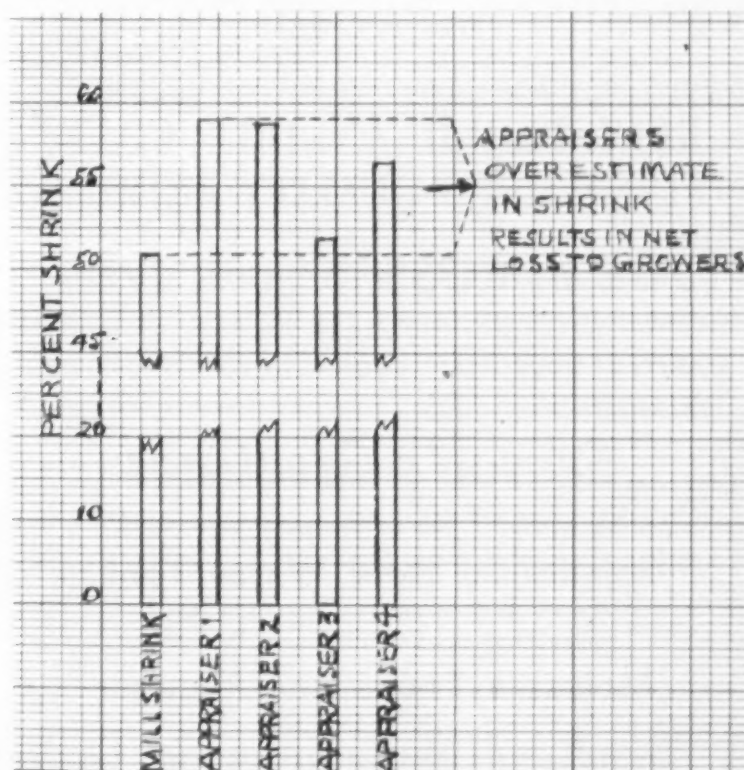


FIGURE 5

Comparison between Shrinkage by Three Different Appraisers, Their Average, and Comparable Mill Shrink on 10 Lots of 1944 Clip Produced by the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station

TABLE 1  
TESTS ON TRIPPLICATE SAMPLES OF IMPORTED WOOL

Sample	Average Weight Per Core gms.	Number of Cores	Clean Content %
From 103-Bale Lot of Australian Wool			
1	99	103	55.4
2	103	103	55.2
3	104	103	55.6
From 89-Bale Lot of Australian Wool			
1	75	89	56.4
2	74	89	55.9
3	76	89	56.4
From 129-Bale Lot of Cape Merino Wool			
1	105	129	50.9
2	106	129	50.7
3	101	129	50.9

TABLE 2  
COMPARISON OF PERCENTAGE CLEAN CONTENT OF SAMPLES WITH THAT OF ENTIRE LOTS

No. of Lots	Average No. Bales Per Lot	Average Wt. Per Lot Lbs.	Core Sample %	% Entire Lot Shrink	% Average Difference
10	7.5	4913	59.60	59.79	0.55





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## LONG-TERM WOOL OUTLOOK

### World Wool Supply and Demand

IF WORLD wool consumption during the second half of 1955 proceeds at the rate of the first half, world-wide supply and demand should continue to be in approximate balance, stated the Wool Bureau in a recent analysis of the current situation.

Consumption during the first six months of the year is estimated at an annual rate of 2,589 million pounds (clean basis) — an increase of 72 million over 1954. Major gains are noted in consumption by the United States and Japan.

Estimated world production of 2,615 million pounds (clean basis) during the 1955-56 season extends the year-by-year rise in the wool clip since the end of World War II. The 1955-56 total is almost 500 million pounds or 22 per cent greater than the 1946-47 clip.

The Wool Bureau notes that the shift in demand from fine to crossbred wool in recent seasons has narrowed the historic differential in price between the two basic apparel types. Early postwar demand for fine wool prompted the growing industry to increase the Merino portion of the world clip at a faster rate than the crossbred portion, with the result that Merino wool production today is 36 per cent greater than in 1946-47, while crossbred production is only 15 per cent higher. It is worthy of note that fine wool prices today are attractive enough to permit the industry to upgrade wool cloth qualities at very little extra cost to consumers.

The outlook for a considerably stronger recovery in United States wool consumption during the fall and winter months is based largely on trade reports of accelerated ordering of wool goods for 1956. The bureau adds that New England mills, which have been out of operation as a result of summer hurricane floods, are resuming normal operations and should contribute to a larger output of wool cloth.

For the long-term outlook, five factors which should contribute to a larger worldwide consumption of wool are mentioned:

1. Expanding economies in Europe and North America, accompanied by rising consumer incomes and spending, suggest that the absolute value of clothing expenditures will rise even if the ratios of clothing expenditures to income remain stable.

2. Recent prices give raw wool a strong market advantage over competitive fibres, especially where the latter have captured part of wool's traditional markets solely on a price basis.

3. Wool support policies in the United States and modification of South American export control regulations should expand supplies available at competitive market prices or at less stringently controlled prices.

4. In the United States the reluctance to buy wool for inventory while Commodity Credit Corporation stocks are shelved because of restrictive price policy should diminish when disposal begins November 1.

5. Monetary allocations for wool purchases will absorb larger quantities at recent prices than originally scheduled, as in the case of Japan.

The price of wool for more than a year has been competitive with the new synthetics and is currently lower than the prices of many man-made fibres, the bureau emphasizes. Even if wool prices firm and rise, it is unlikely that they will again, during peacetime, move out of ranges competitive with synthetics.

## SELLS RAMBOUILLETS

November 10, 1955  
LUCIUS HINDS of Comstock has purchased my entire flock of registered ewes, except two ewe lambs which I am keeping for my grandchildren, Sharon and Jimmy Bruton of Boston, Massachusetts.

The listing in the Breeders' Directory has proved very profitable to me, and I recommend same to Mr. Hinds, who will carry on in a good way, I am sure.

Sincerely,  
C. O. BRUTON  
Eldorado, Texas

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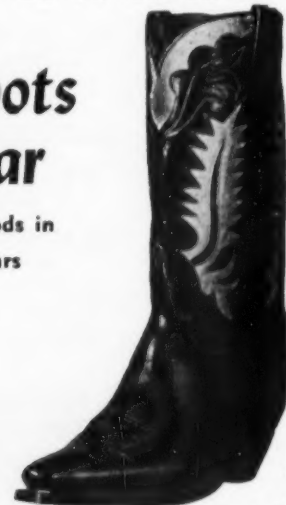
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(A "MEAT" MAGAZINE SPECIAL FEATURE)



**SO NUMEROUS** WERE SHEEP IN THE ARGENTINE BY THE EARLY 1700'S THAT THEY WERE VIRTUALLY CLASSED AS WILD BEASTS. ANYONE WHO WANTED TO COULD KILL THEM AND EAT THEM—EVEN DOGS WERE PERMITTED TO DEVOUR THESE ANIMALS AT WILL.

*A form of "PIG INSURANCE" WAS PRACTICED BY THE PEASANTS OF 19TH CENTURY ENGLAND FOR GENERATIONS. THE PEASANT CONTRIBUTED SMALL REGULAR PAYMENTS TO A PIG FUND FROM WHICH HE DREW REIMBURSEMENT IF A PIG SHOULD DIE BEFORE SLAUGHTERING TIME.*



*Delicate*  
YOUNG LAMB AND VEAL WERE THE "FASHIONABLE MEATS" TO EAT IN FLORENCE, ITALY, DURING RENAISSANCE DAYS.

**THE FLESH** OF A HORSE THAT HAD SEEN TWENTY FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE WAS SERVED AT A BANQUET IN PARIS IN THE MID-1800'S!



## MOHAIR PUBLICITY COMMITTEE APPOINTED

PRESIDENT Armer F. Earwood of the American Angora Goat Breeders' Association has appointed an educational committee composed of Leslie Pepper, San Antonio; Glen Hay of Bandera and R. Beal Pumphrey of San Antonio.

This committee was appointed to work out ways and means of better acquainting the public with mohair and mohair products, and to have available for the public information as to which cars, buses, trains and air lines use mohair upholstery, what furniture is manufactured containing

mohair blends, as well as men's and ladies' suits and coats.

In general, the committee will compile these facts so the public will know where to purchase these products containing mohair. By doing this it is hoped more people will demand products made of mohair—known for its wearability, beauty and lasting qualities.

Milk from sheep is the main milk source in Greece. Of the total of 1,840 million pounds of milk produced in Greece in 1954, 682 million came from sheep, 587 million from cows, 483 million from goats and 57 million from buffaloes.

The Barrel Spring Ranch of 29,000 acres has been leased by Hayes Mitchell of Marfa from the widow of the late Captain M. E. Gillet, a famous Texan. The lease, which is to start October 1, is for five years. The lessee also purchased the cattle and sheep on the ranch.

Texas continues far in the lead in lamb production with 2,785,000; Wyoming, 1,365,000; California, 1,347,000; Montana, 1,146,000, and Colorado, 965,000.

The Woerner Warehouse at Fredericksburg sold about 425,000 pounds of 1955 wool at 45 to 46 cents per pound. Most went to Bill Fields for Albert Schneider.



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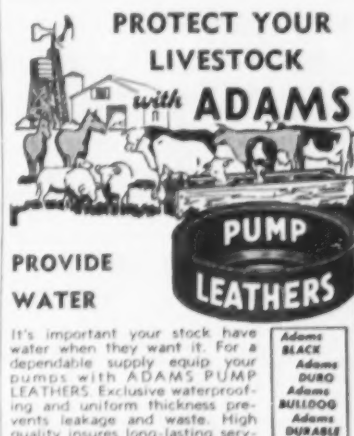
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# VETERINARY QUESTIONS

Answered by  
DR. DONALD A. PRICE, San Angelo



RECENT INQUIRIES indicate a continuing interest in scrapie. This, we feel, is a healthy situation, because an alerted sheep industry is the best warning system against a most frightening danger to its welfare. Those of you who have asked for a lengthy discussion of scrapie will find in the July, 1954, and July, 1955, issues of this magazine practically all of the currently available information on the subject. The editor is to be commended for his fine series of articles, and we hope that you will have those previous issues on hand or can borrow them from a neighbor.

We can't tell you how to diagnose scrapie, but we can mention again some of the symptoms which may enable you to suspect it. The first symptom a ranchman might recognize would be an exaggerated restlessness, nervousness, or even a rapid but slight trembling. Not many people observe their sheep closely enough to notice these symptoms, but probably next to appear would

be the itchy skin that would cause the affected sheep to rub and scrape against fences or other objects. This results in a "taggy" fleece which eventually is rubbed bare and then raw. In advanced stages the infected sheep are unable to rise, and invariably die.

Each sheepman should feel morally obligated to seek competent help in obtaining a correct diagnosis if any of the scrapie symptoms appear in his flock. Chances are that it will be something else and can be corrected before it has caused great loss. On the other hand, should an outbreak of scrapie go for long without being reported, inestimable damage to the sheep industry and tremendous expense to the public would result.

We would like to have more questions submitted by the readers. Please address them to Dr. Price at Box 189, San Angelo.

## MOHAIR SELLS

C. J. WEBRE, JR., buyer for Forte, Dupee, Sawyer Co. of Boston, and Louie Ragland, Junction, representing R. P. Collins and Company, Boston, are reported to have bought some 60,000 pounds of graded mohair from the Bandera County Ranchman and Farmers Association at prices from \$1.10 to \$1.70 per pound.

The entire accumulation of mohair at the Sonora Wool and Mohair Co., approximating 400,000 pounds, also went to Mr. Webre at prices of 90 cents per pound for the grown hair and \$1.2650 per pound for kid hair.

The 200,000-pound accumulation of adult hair brought 91½ cents per pound in late November at a sale at the Ranchman's Wool and Mohair Commission Company at Ingram. Clyde Young, Lampasas, buying for Winslow and Company, made the purchase.

It is reported that Jack Hughes of San Angelo, representing Emery, Russell and Goodrich, Boston, has made numerous small purchases in the Comfort and Rocksprings area at

prices ranging from 91½ cents per pound for grown hair to 95 cents per pound for yearling hair and \$1.2650 per pound for kid hair.

About 45,000 pounds of kid, yearling and adult hair was purchased from the Uvalde Wool and Mohair Company in Uvalde.

So little of the current crop remains, less than half a million pounds, that interest is already being shown in the coming spring clip, which is expected to be slightly larger than that of 1955.

## BUYS ANGORA GOATS

November 18, 1955

I HAVE 100 head of Angora goats from the Robert Reid herd in New Mexico. Will soon go to Texas to buy about 400 more goats. Texas thinks they have more and better of everything. I want to raise bigger and better goats than they have in Texas. Must put Arizona on the map somehow.

C. W. FISH  
Box 752, Bisbee, Arizona

## Texan Wins National Sheep Dog Trials in Wabash, Indiana



WILLARD POTTS of Lometa, Texas, with his border collie, Ben, won the Supreme International Championship Sheep Dog Trials at Wabash, Indiana. Ben also won the national championship trophy, scoring 46 points out of a possible 50, for gathering, driving and penning sheep.

Ben also won the trophy for the highest-scoring American-bred border collie.

Potts' 19-month-old female, Roxy, won the trophy for the highest-scoring junior dog at the trials. Roxy was champion of the show with the highest aggregate score for the three days, and was also the champion dog in the shedding contest, winning the shedding trophy. Potts also won the herd shepherd's trophy. There were eight trophies to be given to winners in the various events, and seven of these trophies went to Potts.

There were 22 top sheep dogs of the nation entered in the trials from several states, and two dogs from Canada. This is the first time Texas has had the honor of having the champion sheep dog of the national trials.

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Alma Esplin, Secretary

## SHEEP AND LAMB MARKETINGS HIT TWO-YEAR LOW

MARKETINGS OF sheep and lambs in Texas during November 1-20 were the smallest for any similar period since September, 1953, the Agricultural Marketing Service reported.

Sheep and lamb receipts totaled 21,000 for the 20-day period—15,600 at Fort Worth and 5,400 at San Antonio. This was 17 per cent less than the previous month and five per cent less than November, 1954. San Antonio accounted for the drop as its receipts were only half as large as the month before. Fort Worth's supply actually ran about 500 larger than the month before.

Slaughter lambs comprised from 65 to 70 per cent of the run at Fort Worth this month. The balance was evenly divided between slaughter yearlings and old ewes. Slaughter lambs and yearlings were relatively scarce throughout the period at San Antonio where aged sheep predominated.

Pricewise, slaughter lambs looked about 50 cents per 100 pounds lower than October's close at Fort Worth on November 18 and 50 cents to \$1 lower at San Antonio. Good to choice woolled lambs brought \$16.50 to \$17 at Fort Worth and \$17.50 to \$18 at San Antonio. Similar grade shorn offerings took \$16.50 to \$17 at Fort Worth and \$16 to \$17 at San Antonio. Culls sold down to \$12 at Fort Worth and \$10 at San Antonio.

Slaughter yearlings looked steady to 50 cents lower at Fort Worth but the limited supply sold 50 cents to \$1 higher at San Antonio. Utility and good shorn yearlings made \$13.50 to \$15 at Fort Worth and \$14 at San Antonio.

Ewes and wethers ruled about 50 cents higher for the month. Slaughter ewes ranged from \$5.50 to \$6.50 at Fort Worth and from \$4.50 to \$6 at San Antonio. Utility to choice shorn aged wethers returned \$7.50 to \$11 at San Antonio.

With USDA'S November 1 lamb feeding situation indicating a smaller number of sheep and lambs to be fed

this winter and spring, demand for feeder lambs held up fairly well in Texas. Limited offerings also were a supporting factor.

Terminal market sales of medium and good feeder lambs around mid-month were listed at \$14 to \$16.50 per 100 pounds at Fort Worth and \$11.50 to \$14 at San Antonio.

Activity in the range country consisted of a few thousand feeder lambs that sold in far Southwest Texas and the Edwards Plateau areas at \$16.50 per 100 pounds. Early in the month about 500 head of 86-pound feeders moved in the Edwards Plateau at \$17. Other country sales ranged from \$15 to \$16.50.

Wool sales during November included about 500,000 pounds of graded staple wool early in the month at \$1.40 a pound, clean basis. Some 12-month wool made 31 to 53 cents per pound, grease basis.

Goat marketings at San Antonio from November 1-20 totaled around 5,200. This was 24 per cent less than the same period in October but seven per cent more than a year earlier. Slaughter goats and kids predominated. Stocker goats were relatively scarce at most sessions.

Demand for slaughter goats was fairly dependable and prices looked generally steady, although the top on kid goats was 50 cents higher than at the close of October trading.

Most mature slaughter goats sold around November 18 at \$4.50 to \$5.75 per 100 pounds, with a few up to \$6. Kid goats bulked at \$3.50 to \$4.50 a head. A very few stocker goats changed hands at \$5 to \$6.50 per 100 pounds.

November mohair sales in Texas ranged from 86½ to 91½ cents per pound for adult hair, and from \$1.16½ to mostly \$1.26½ for kid hair. Reports to AMS indicate very little mohair remains unsold in Texas now.

Butcher hogs showed the biggest change in Texas this month. Barrows and gilts lost \$2 to \$2.25 at Fort

Worth and \$1.50 at San Antonio. Sales around November 18 topped at \$13 per 100 pounds at both markets. Sows ranged from \$10 to \$11 at both points. This was \$1.50 to \$2.50 lower than October's close at Fort Worth and \$1.50 lower at San Antonio.

Cattle prices, meanwhile, looked unevenly steady to 50 cents, spots \$1.50 higher on some sales but steady to 50 cents, spots \$1 and \$1.50 lower on others.

### SENDS DUES

November 15, 1955  
THANKS FOR the urgent reminder entitled "Are You a Member of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association?" Its appeal was well-stated and concise.

Enclosed is check for dues.  
THEO OEHLER  
Harper, Texas

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## National Lamb Feeders Request Change in Government Grading

C. W. MONIER, secretary of the National Lamb Feeders Association, reports that in a recent meeting of the organization a resolution was unanimously adopted recommending a change in grading standards; that a committee be set up in conjunction with the National Wool Growers Association to write the new standards (of government lamb grading) between now and the meeting of the National Wool Growers Association in January. Further, that palatability should be considered and age char-

acteristics deleted from the standards.

The organization also recommended that activities in lamb promotion be continued. They further went on record as approving and commending the activities of the American Sheep Producers Council, urging that more activity, in fact the major activity, be centered on promotion of lamb rather than promotion of wool, emphasizing that at the present time it was the belief of the organization that more benefit will be gained in promoting the consumption of lamb than in promoting wool.

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# The Wolf Trappers

By JUDGE JOHN R. FUCHS



The Author—  
Judge John R. Fuchs

"That reminds me." Thus begins many a good and also poor story. Mine, whether good or bad, is a true story. My friend, George Sessions Perry, wrote about goats. (I call Mr. Perry "friend," for anyone who is a friend of Helmut Fuch is also my friend.) His article, "I Love Goats," which appeared in the November 20, 1954, issue of the Saturday Evening Post brought back to me my boyhood days of almost 60 years ago. The goat country near Cypress Mill in Blanco County, Texas, to which Mr. Perry refers in his article, is very familiar to me, for I was raised on a ranch near there.

IN MY days the goats had to be herded in the daytime and corraled at night. They were not only "victims or prejudice," but also of the wolves. Today, thanks to the trappers and hunters, the herds enjoy the freedom of the range. No more are they molested by the marauding timber wolf which formerly infested the woods of central and western Texas. This timber wolf is about twice the size of the well-known coyote of South Texas, and much more destructive. He killed for food and also for sport. Sometimes we would find a dozen carcasses and but little or nothing had been devoured of them.

At times the wolves, when hunger spurred them on, got so bold they made their kill in the pens not far from the ranch house. It was then that our systematic warfare against these enemies of our herds took on renewed vigor and determination for revenge. The opportunity soon presented itself.

It was evening. The sun had gone to rest. It was just that moment between twilight and darkness. We had just sat down to our evening meal our mother was serving for her hungry boys. "You have an appetite like wolves," she said. And barely had she said this when there came from the

not-too-distant hill the plaintive and long, drawn-out howl which ran cold shivers down our spines, for we well knew that if any goats had been lost or left out in the pasture they would fall sure prey to the vandal of the woods. Especially so as a moment later came an answer from his mate in the valley below.

"Tomorrow," said my brother Julius, "our first business is to set our traps." "That we must do the very first thing in the morning," replied my brother Adolf. Of course, I very promptly chimed in. My brothers were both older than I, but I was anxious to join them and learn more of the art of trapping wolves. Far and wide they were known as the best wolf trappers. I call it an art because that it really was.

The next morning we woke long before dawn, as it was on our minds to go after those wolves. But first we had to do our chores. Cows had to be milked, pigs fed, and the wood box filled with wood for the cook stove. Water had to be toted from the spring below the house. This done, we saddled our horses and rode out on the range.

We had not traveled over a mile when we saw an ominous sign. Black vultures—buzzards in Texas—were circling on high, but gradually coming lower and lower. Quickly we galloped to the spot where they were descending. Unfortunately our forebodings were found correct, for here we found a dead goat. It was a gruesome sight. The wolves had torn her throat, ripped open one side and devoured the heart and liver. I was about to dismount when one of my brothers said, "Stay on your horse." I asked, "Are you not setting the traps here?" "No! Never!" was his reply. "We must not disturb anything near this place," referring to the scene of the killing, explained my brother Julius. I learned from him further that the wolves would not come back to the

carcass if they detected any human scent or if we in any way molested the scene of the kill. Nothing must be done to arouse their suspicion.

Instead of setting traps near the carcass my brother Adolf took his lasso from the side of his saddle and threw the loop over the horns of the dead goat. And then he made what the trappers call a "drag." For about a mile he drug the carcass along the trails made by the goats and cattle, and finally we returned to the place from which he had started. There he threw the end of the rope across a limb of a nearby liveoak tree and hung the dead goat high from the ground, out of reach of carrion-eating animals and birds.

Now followed what required the utmost skill and strategy—the actual setting of the traps. Slowly we retraced the course of the drag, closely examining the ground and surroundings as we went along. Wherever the soil was free of rocks and where the trail was narrow and flanked by brush on each side we would set a trap.

Before we dismounted our horses at the place selected to set a trap we rubbed the soles of our shoes with a piece of bacon so as to destroy the human scent. Then, with a small hand spade or some similar tool, we dug a hole a few inches deep and having the shape of the set trap. In this hole we placed the set steel trap in such a way as to be even with the surrounding ground. Next, the trap was covered with a very thin paper, large enough to extend a few inches beyond its rim or fangs. The best paper to use were the sheets from an ordinary daily newspaper, as they are brittle. Next, some of the surface soil was thinly spread all around the rim of the trap. This was done so that the cover would not rest too heavy on the lever of the trap and thus spring it. Then the dirt was also very thinly spread all over the paper so that nothing remained visible of the trap. Before all this had been done our hands had also been rubbed with ba-



Ready for the Hunt

con grease, or the blood of the carcass of a goat or rabbit. The chain of the trap was covered with dry leaves or buried beneath the soil so as to leave no visible trace of it. Then it was securely tied with wire to a strong stick about four to six feet in length. Thus, the setting of the trap completed by the deft hands of the expert trapper, no one could see where the trap was set.

That night we were as excited with expectancy as the little boy who hangs up his stocking on Christmas Eve. It was only the physical exercise during the day in the fresh air that made us fall asleep soon after we "hit the hay." The next morning we were on our horses with the crack of dawn, riding to our traps. The only dog we took along was our trusted Youknow. (I will tell you more about him later.) The hounds were either tied or kept in our dog pen. But it was always safe to take the veteran Youknow. He knew the location of the traps as well as we did, and he never stepped into or even near the traps.

The subdued but excited anticipation with which we approached the first trap was replaced by elation when we saw that it was gone. In a few minutes Youknow located the wolf within about 100 yards where the stick to which the trap was tied was lodged between some brush. Quickly we dispatched the wolf and tied him behind one of our saddles. After a few more traps another one was gone. This time it required several rounds of the surrounding thickets before Youknow got wind of the wolf, but when he did he took us straight to him. The wolf, when he saw us coming, made a desperate lunge to get away, and as he was caught by only one toe he slipped out of the trap. He was loose to run but the sudden release from the trap threw him momentarily off balance. In that instant Youknow caught him by the throat. Like lightning my brother Adolf jumped from his horse, grabbed the trap, opened it wide enough to stick the wolf's hind leg in it, which he had caught with one of his hands. "My, you took a big chance," I said to my brother. He only laughed and replied, "I knew I could trust Youknow." All this happened much faster than I have told it here.

Before we rode home we reset our traps and covered all of them with some dry brush so that the goats and cattle would not close them during the daytime. Late in the evening we rode out and uncovered them before nightfall. We did this without dismounting. Sometimes it would be weeks before the wolves returned. But patiently every day we would cover and uncover the traps. Every few days we would make a new drag from trap to trap. With us we carried a few slices of bacon. We scorched them a little with a match so as to give it a good scent and then threw small slices near the traps. This was done to make the wolf trot back and forth, sniffing for the bacon. Thus he was more apt to set into the trap. Just as a precaution we tested the wires that tied the traps.

We were often asked why we did not tie the trap to a tree. "That

would be a great mistake," our older brother Julius delighted to explain. "Tie the trap to something solid," he continued, "and you might lose your wolf. Imagine the shock you would get," he would tell the questioner, "if you stepped suddenly into an unsuspected trap. And then think of a wild wolf," he added. "When that trap suddenly catches the leg of that wild beast he makes a jump with all his might, and before the fangs of the trap have cut the hide and have become embedded his paw may slip out. But if the trap is tied to a loose

(Continued on page 36)

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## Wolf Trappers

(Continued from page 35)

stick it will give, and the impact is not so great. The wolf will drag it, and the fangs of the trap will take a tighter grip the farther the wolf runs with it. Very soon he will head for the densest brush, where the stick will inevitably get caught in the brush. After that he rarely gets out of the trap. It would happen only if very poorly caught."

Sometimes the wire with which the chain of the trap was tied to the stick would break. Then the wolf would be off with the trap, and it is surprising how fast he can run with a trap on one of his legs. If this happened we had to call our hounds. Occasionally the wolf had a long start and the trail was so cold that the dogs could not follow it. This was the condition on the morning that I now have in mind. It meant that we had to lead our horses and we ourselves had to do the trailing by following marks left by the trap on the ground. This at best was slow going. Minutely we examined the ground to find the direction the wolf had gone. When we found a spot where the trap had scraped the ground or overturned a rock one of us would stay at this sign until the others had found the next one.

And so on and on we tediously worked our way along the trail left behind by the trapped wolf. And how happy and relieved we were when all at once one of the hounds, the one with the coldest nose, let loose with a long, drawn-out howl, indicating he was scenting the wolf's trail. But even this hound had a hard time to make much headway. Every so often he had to retrace his steps just like we had done. But slowly he kept plodding away and after about a half-mile his bark became shorter, which indicated to us that the trail was getting hotter. And now some of the other hounds joined in, and in a few minutes they were "all off in a bunch" in full chase." "To the saddles," we shouted in unison, and we yelled encouragement to the pack. And off we

were in full pursuit. Now we knew the wolf would be ours in a short while, as our hounds were well-trained Missouri wolf hounds. They had caught many wolves which were not encumbered with a trap. Another mile and the dogs had the wolf at bay. From a distance we could hear the fight — the snarling and gnashing of teeth. Intermittently we heard a yelp from one of the hounds as the wolf got a good whack at him. And then when a dog dodged the wolf's attack we heard his jaws clap together, giving the sound of a steel trap that had been sprung.

In a few minutes we reached the scene of action. The wolf had his back against a thick clump of brush so that the dogs could attack him only from his front and sides. Like lightning he turned from one side to the other, fending off all six dogs.

With his mouth open, his strong jaws widespread and his shining long and sharp teeth he was a formidable foe. He was in size far above the average. If it had not been for "old" Youknow we might have been forced to shoot the wolf without delay. Youknow, although a halfbreed, was anything but a common cur. He was a large dog and his hair was short and red. Our hounds were spotted white and black. Youknow was not old. That was just our pet name for him. He had perhaps more experience than the hounds, but they were all well-trained.

From a very young dog Youknow had been trained to fight wolves. His first experience with a wolf came about when he was still a half-grown puppy. My brother Adolf, who had a natural knack to train dogs, took him along as he went to run his traps. In one of them he caught a wolf. It was probably the first wolf Youknow had ever seen. The wolf had very much the same color and size as the young dog's mother, a German shepherd. Unconcernedly he trotted right up to the wolf to give her in dog fashion a friendly greeting by taking a sniff of her. The wolf, on the other hand, reciprocated by giving the pup a very unfriendly nip, sending him back reeling, bleeding and howling. I am sure that from that moment on Youknow



"Are you racing your motor at me?"

swore eternal vengeance to all wolves. He proved it by his future actions, and by his violent attacks on this occasion.

I must tell how he got the name of "Youknow," but first let us get back to the fight which, by the way, we were not carrying on merely for sport, but to give our dogs the training they needed when they caught an untrapped wolf. While the full-blooded hounds attacked, old Youknow stood by waiting for his opportunity—for an opening. Every time the wolf had hold of one of the hounds old Youknow would make a lunge at the wolf. That would make him turn loose of the hound, and Youknow just as quickly fell back so as not to get caught himself.

Finally the right moment arrived; the wolf had hold of one of the more daring hounds, and another had charged in, trying to grasp the wolf by the throat, and as he had to ward off this double attack it gave Youknow the chance he had been wait-

ing for. With a cat-like jump he made for the wolf and caught him by one of his ears. Deeply he sank his teeth and held on so that the wolf could not turn his head. Then Youknow, who was a powerful dog and outweighed the wolf, pushed him against the brush. There he held him and that gave the hounds a chance to get the wolf by the throat. At the same time the other hounds attacked, and gradually they pulled him to the ground. Now he was completely at the mercy of the newly encouraged dogs, and it did not take long until the wolf had passed to whatever place the bad wolves go.

How did Youknow get his name? How does any dog get his name except from the boys who love him? Our playmates and boyhood friends of the neighborhood had an idea that my brother Adolf, who was always full of pranks, had picked this name with a particular purpose in view. When anyone asked for the name of

the dog my brother Adolf would say, "Why, you know." And if the questioner would say, "No, I don't," then my brother would keep up the teasing by replying, "Sure, Youknow's his name."

But as a matter of fact this name did not originate from any such motive as was very logically ascribed to my brother. It came about in quite a different way. Mr. Hyer, the teacher of our little one-room schoolhouse, owned a German shepherd bitch. Her name was Juno. She was our dog's mother, and the father was a large red hound, of what particular breed no one knew, except that all who knew Old Ross sang his praises as being one of the best hunting dogs in the country.

At any rate it turned out a good combination, as you already know. When Professor Hyer heard me call our dog what he took to be "Juno," after his mother, he explained why (Continued on page 38)

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### TREE LUCERNE AS STOCK FEED

ACCORDING to Dr. L. C. Snook, animal nutrition officer of the Western Australian Department of Agriculture, many sheep farmers in that state are planting tree lucerne (*Cytisus proliferus*) on a fairly extensive scale to provide their sheep with a protein-rich feed in autumn. Experimental plantings have given a yield equivalent to two tons of edible dry matter an acre without irrigation. The dry material contained 22 per cent of protein and 22 per cent of fibre, equal in feeding value to the best alfalfa hay. Most cereal hay contains only about seven per cent of crude protein and about 30 per cent of indigestible fibre.

Tree alfalfa is a hardy evergreen legume that can be repeatedly lopped for a high yield of greenstuff exceeding ordinary lucerne in feeding value. It is grown commonly in many parts of Australia as a hedge plant, but its value as a stock feed seems to have been overlooked. Being of Mediterranean origin, the plant is well suited to most parts of Australia.

The experimental trees grown for sheep feeding were planted at distances of about eight feet by eight feet and trained to branch near the ground into many stems. If grazing is properly controlled the trees yield a large bulk of greenstuff in autumn and early winter and are also valuable in providing excellent honey.

The foliage is so palatable that horses and cattle will break off quite large limbs and poultry are so fond of the leaves that they can be fed to them without being chaffed. Trees can be grown in the yards for shade and lopped for feed.

Tree lucerne will grow well on a variety of soils, including deep sands, but, like all legumes, it must be adequately manured with superphosphate. Every year the trees shed a heavy crop of pea-like seeds, which may be raised in boxes or beds in the spring for planting out in the autumn.

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## Wolf Trappers

(Continued from page 37)

that would not do, as our dog was a male. Then and there we received quite a dissertation on Greek mythology of which we, at that time, were wholly ignorant. He suggested that we change the name to Jupiter. "Jumping jeans," said my brother Adolf, "we are not naming our dog for any Greek god. That," he said, "would make us the laughing stock of all the boys, when they found out what it meant." We thought the name of his mother to be "You-know," as least so it sounded to us. I then spelled it out to our teacher — Y-O-U-K-N-O-W. "Sure," said my brother Adolf, "we will stick to that and we will have no such high-fangled name as 'Youpityhur'."

So "Youknow" it was and so it remained. He was a wise dog. If we set our traps in a strange pasture where it was difficult to locate them again, we did not worry. Old You-know took us from trap to trap. He was true to his name. He knew many things that we did not.

### The Chase

While trapping wolves was great sport, chasing and catching them with our hounds was an even greater thrill. A wolf hunt generally started out early in the morning. That gave the wolf time to fill his stomach. The hounds were fed but very little the night before, and therefore had a slight advantage in this respect.

I could recall many a chase, but none more vividly when one morning we started out about 3 o'clock. Within about 30 minutes we came to a place where a wolf had killed and devoured an armadillo. The scent of the wolf was still fresh as the dogs picked up the trail at once and in a few minutes were in full pursuit. Oh, there is no "music" so sweet to a hunter as that of a good pack of hounds on a hot trail. We rode our best horses, but it took all they had to keep up with the dogs. After a few hours up and down the hills in our pasture they took straight off across the Pedernales River. Here we lost some time in crossing the river. On the other side we followed them for miles, but their lead was growing.

Although we rode at top speed it was not long until the dogs were out of hearing.

Vainly we rode on and on until we could see the hills between Johnson City and Blanco. Every now and then we stopped to listen intently, but to no avail. Finally we stopped altogether and waited, as we did not know which way to turn. The day was cool and cloudy. On such a day the dogs could keep up the chase a long time. We knew that the greater part of the forenoon had passed. After a few hours of listening, waiting and hoping, we reluctantly turned our horses back toward our ranch. As we were slowly riding along, our heads hanging dejectedly, all at once we stopped, and everyone sat up straight in the saddle and cocked his ears as Helmuth, my nephew, who owned one of the lead hounds, said, "Listen, I believe I hear the dogs."

While no one spoke a word, hush, quiet, don't whisper, and don't move was written on everyone's lips. In a few moments expressions of elated affirmation were visible on the faces of most of us as faintly we could hear the hounds. But it was only for a few minutes.

"Wait, we will hear them again," said my oldest brother, Theodore. "They are down in a valley and as soon as they get on top of the hills on higher ground we will hear them." We were not disappointed, for in a few minutes which seemed like hours we heard them again. This continued for quite a while. We would hear them and then their voices faded out. But each time their barking came back a little louder, which indicated to us that they were coming toward us. It was true; nearer and nearer they came. The wolf had turned and was coming back from where he had started, which they so often do.

Closer and closer came the barking of the hounds as they approached us, and soon they passed us within a few hundred yards. They were going back to the river and so were we, riding as if our very lives depended on it. A little while later all was quiet, but not for long. But long enough to make us wonder what had happened.

Then came the familiar baying from on top and beneath a bluff where the wolf had taken refuge. It still took us about 30 minutes riding around ravines to get to the spot where the wolf was at bay. He had crawled into a narrow crevice under a big boulder. As by this time our dogs were well worn out after almost eight hours of running, we thought it best to shoot the wolf.

My brother Adolf shot him with a pistol and, and I think, intentionally only crippled him. We then pulled him out by entwining a long, forked stick in his hair. It did not take the dogs long to give him the coup de grace. Every dog received a pat on the back, and we passed the flask and drank a toast to the hounds.

Today the goats and their kids, the sheep with their lambs, and the deer surrounded by their fawns, can sleep in peace under the stars, unafraid of the timber wolf, their mortal enemy. And they owe it all to the untiring pursuit of the unsung trappers and hunters of yesterday.

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# Foxtail Johnson Objects

OUR PREACHER got sick Sunday and Gabe Horsfall was drafted to take his place. Gabe got away with it by announcin' that the service would be all silent prayer and meditation.

Young Fiddlehead Blicher took a driver test yesterday and proved he could turn his jalopy around on two wheels at 90 miles an hour. But he didn't get his license, and now he knows there ain't a chance for a man when the guvverment has got it in for him.

This here ottomation has got to the point where unions is strikin' for higher wages for the men that goes around to plug in or wind up the otomatick masheens.

Snag Posey drove his car into the back end of another car last night. Says the tail lights was so big he thought he was just headin' into a glorious sunset.

A feller don't have to get born in Texas to be a real big liar, but it sure helps.

I'm bein' ignored complete by my granddaughter, born last month, but gettin' plenty attention from her sister that just arrived at the ice cream cone age.

Plittical opinion is split about even out this way. Half us experts is sure nobody can beat the party that gave us all them fine summer rains, and the other half knows there ain't a chance for the party that brought all them summer floods on us.

Our community hospittle drive fell 'way short, so us Squawberry Flatters has made up our minds to stay healthy 'til it's safe to get sick around here, even if the monottany kills us.

Fodge Rucker's mad as all git-out over the scandalous report that he had a fight with his wife. Says nothin' happened to him, 'cept that he fell between the spindles of his cotton picker.

Well, us home folks has had to

put on our dark glasses for another season. The dudes is back from the east with their genuwine western cowland clothes, brighter'n ever.

Ringtail Skump is gettin' a lot of credit because he ain't h'isted one little snort since the first of last month. Shucks! He's just savin' up to sellebrate his birthday at the end of this month.

More of us might travel the straight and narrow if it wasn't too dang narrow for a 1955 car.

I never win an argument. It's because I know 'most everthing about everthing and it's plumb useless for a smart man to argy with iggernance.

Our Community Uplift Society has finally found the perfect place for a goff course. When a player slices the ball hits a moonshine still. If he hooks it lands in a marihuana patch.

Don't think I'll subscribe to the Hardscrabble Clarion again. If it ain't scandal I'm not intrested and if it is scandal there'll be somebody along in a minnit to show me the item.

Len Hipple says he's gonna put on a whopper of a 'Thanksgivin' party for all his kinfolks and customers. Ev'ry moonshine run he made this year turned out just super.

Rich folks' childern wear shoes all year. Childern of middle-class folks puts on shoes and socks at the first frost. Poor folks' childern don't put on shoes 'til first snow and they ain't got no socks.

Mrs. Fodge Rucker raised Ned with Fodge about the new shotgun he bought and showed around the neighborhood so proud. Says it's a reflection on the charickter of their daughters.

I forget which team won the World Series. Can't even remember who played. But what makes me an out-cast from society is that I can't savvy what diffrence it makes to Squawberry Flat.

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## In Memoriam

### FRANK N. BULLARD


FRANK N. BULLARD, 80, prominent ranchman and sheep breeder of Yolo County, California, died in Woodland Clinic hospital, Woodland, California, November 2. In over 30 years exhibiting sheep in the show rings, Bullard won over 300 medals and ribbons. He took eight championships, 36 first places and 32 second places from the California State Fair. He made many trips to West Texas in the sale of his purebred and registered sheep. He owned 2,000 acres of land near Woodland.

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### CAL ROSS WORD

CAL R. WORD, 70, died on his ranch near Carta Valley on November 3. Born at Fort McKavitt in 1885, Mr. Word moved with his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. T. Dee Word, to Sutton County in 1892. In 1907 he married Miss Bertha Earwood, who survives him. He had ranched near Carta Valley for 17 years.

Other survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Ralph Winton of San Antonio; two grandsons, Ralph Winton, Jr., of San Antonio, and Calvin Ross Word, Big Spring; a brother, Dee Word, and two sisters, Miss Mattie Word and Mrs. Luella O'Leary, all of Sonora.

### BEAL BOWIE WILKINSON

BEAL BOWIE WILKINSON, 81, retired Menard ranchman, died in a Brady hospital on November 25 after a short illness. Born in Coleman County in 1869, Mr. Wilkinson moved with his parents to Menard when a boy.

Surviving are two sons, Woodrow Wilkinson and Nealie Wilkinson, both of Menard; three daughters, Mrs. Alice Turner of Los Angeles, California, Mrs. Gladys Evans of Abilene, and Mrs. Vera Wagoner of Menard; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

### JESS LEE THOMAS

JESS LEE THOMAS, 66, Colorado City cattle buyer, died November 16 after suffering a stroke.

### M. G. REED

M. G. REED, 79, retired ranchman of Lawn, Texas, died in a Winters hospital November 17 after a long illness. Mr. Reed was born in Tennessee in 1876 and came with his parents to Erath County in 1877 and later to Coke County. In 1896 he married Miss Bessie May Barron, daughter of Caleb Barron, pioneer ranchman.

Surviving are his wife; two sons, Caleb Reed of Abilene and W. B. Reed of Lawn; one daughter, Mrs. Thelma Reed Locke of Midland, and three grandchildren, Francis Harper of Wichita Falls, Bill Reed of Lawn and Mack Reed of Houston.

### T. J. MURRAY

THOMAS JOHN MURRAY, 97, pioneer San Saba County ranchman, died November 7 in Memorial Hospital in Brownwood. He had been ill only a short time. Born in Michigan in 1858, Mr. Murray came to East Texas with his parents in 1858. In 1877 he moved to San Saba County, where he lived most of the remainder of his life. He recalled having seen herds of buffalo in Texas in the early days and drove longhorn cattle to the Red River in 1878. In 1885 he married Susan Jackson, a daughter of John Jackson, who named Susan Peak near San Angelo for his daughter. Mrs. Murray died in 1954.

Survivors are three sons, G. E. Murray of Richland Springs, T. H. Murray of San Angelo and W. S. Murray of Conroe; four daughters, Mrs. Roy Roundtree of Sanderson, Mrs. John Alexander of San Saba, and Mrs. J. A. Germany and Mrs. M. E. Carter of Brownwood. Twenty-one grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren also survive.

### J. S. COLE, JR.

J. S. COLE, JR., 38, Sterling County ranchman, died at his home near Sterling City on November 4. Mr. Cole was born in Sterling County in 1917. He married Miss Marie Atkinson in 1938.

Surviving are his wife; one son, Jackie; a daughter, Elizabeth, all of Sterling City; his father, J. S. Cole, Sr., and a brother, Thurman Cole of Fort Worth.

### JOHN B. McKNIGHT

JOHN B. McKNIGHT, 59, San Angelo, ranchman and vice president of the Wool Growers Central Storage Company, San Angelo, died in a San Angelo hospital on November 26 after being in ill health over a year.

Mr. McKnight was born in Menard, a son of Dr. and Mrs. J. B. McKnight. He had lived in San Angelo most of the time since 1914. He was associated with the J. M. Lea Warehouse, San Angelo, for a number of years; was later sales manager of the Wool Growers Central Storage Company and in 1944 was named vice president of the company.

Mr. McKnight was a director of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association.

Surviving are his wife, the former Miss Helen Webb; four sons, Joseph W. McKnight of Dallas, John Lyndon McKnight of Houston, and Sam Alan McKnight and Lea Upton McKnight of San Angelo; a daughter, Miss Marguerite McKnight of New York City; his parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. B. McKnight of San Angelo; a sister, Mrs. W. F. Lewis, and an aunt, Mrs. J. H. Latham, both of San Angelo.

### WILLIAM L. CLEVELAND

WILLIAM L. CLEVELAND, 57, former Marfa ranchman, died at Marfa on November 2 after a long illness of several months. Mr. Cleveland was born at Marfa in 1898, where he ranched until 1940, when he moved to New Mexico. He had ranched in Mississippi the past five years.

Surviving are his wife of El Paso; a daughter, Mrs. Jack Shearman of Wilcox, Arizona; his mother, Mrs. Molly Cleveland of Marfa; a sister, Mrs. Brian Cartwright; a niece, Mrs. A. E. Ligon, and a nephew, Joe Ligon, all of Marfa, and two grandchildren.

Harvey Martin of San Angelo was reported about the middle of November to have purchased 308 lambs from T. R. Turner of Eden. He purchased around 700 lambs from Bert Kincaid, Jr., of Fort Stockton, and around 400 head from Curtis Stephens of Millersview. The lambs averaged about 80 pounds and sold for 16½ cents a pound.

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## The Pioneer Teacher

By ROY HOLT

(Continued from previous issue)

### No Plush Age in Education

LIFE IN the early days of settlement of West Texas was primitive. The frontier was tamed by settlers who had none of the comforts and luxuries of the present-day pushbutton age. The log and picket schoolhouses of the period were as good as the homes of the settlers. Parents banded together and by their own labor erected some kind of shelter to serve as a school building. The teachers and pupils simply made the best of what was available.

The schoolhouses were usually small and made of any material available. Log houses were common. Picket houses were common in West Texas due to the scarcity of timber. Lumber houses, often unpainted, came to be erected when the material could be secured. Proud indeed were the communities which could boast a schoolhouse made of stone. Puncture floors were the vogue.

The furniture was crude and not made for comfort. Often the first furniture was merely backless split logs for seats, with no desks. Later, home-made rough lumber desks were a great step forward. Usually a slab of dressed lumber extended the length of the room to serve as a writing table. The heat was a fireplace, and later an old box-stove. The teacher and pupils were responsible for carrying in the wood and keeping the fire going as well as the janitor work.

Many of the pupils walked several miles to school while some rode on horseback. After a day of school both the pupils and the teacher were tired out. Little wonder that the boys all preferred riding wild horses or hunting rather than attending school—and that the girls married at an early age.

### Ex-Schoolteachers

Countless thousands of men and women have served as teachers in the schools of Texas. A vast majority of these toiled steadfastly to make their communities a better place to live. They sincerely and honestly labored to develop the skills, the minds and the character of their pupils. Their pay was small.

Although every community today pays tribute to some former teacher who was especially beloved or particularly successful, the teacher usually had to get into some other field of work before he received much attention or recognition. Comparatively

few persons made teaching their life work.

Sometimes a teaching background was held against a teacher when he entered another profession. A few years ago a man who had taught for several years in rural schools, then served as county superintendent and, after studying law and serving as county judge and district attorney, became a candidate for the United States Congress in a large West Texas district. One of his opponents in numerous speeches stated that the former school teacher was not qualified to serve in Congress because he had associated with children in the classroom for too many years. The ex-teacher was elected and served two terms, however.

Teachers in West Texas left the classroom to enter nearly all the professions. Lawyers, doctors, ministers, merchants, ranchmen, newspaper editors, insurance and automobile salesmen—and many others—once served as schoolteachers. Governors Houston, Lanham, Sayers, Ross and Roberts and others served their days as teachers.

Frank Latta, first schoolmaster at Junction, is said to have been the first sheriff of Kimble County. The second teacher, George E. Stuart, later became county judge. Greenleaf Fisk, New Yorker, taught school at Brownwood as early as 1860. Later he served as county judge of Brown County, and also became the owner of much land in the area.

William Kruger, tenderfoot teacher at the old Lynch ranch school in Shackelford County, was elected the first sheriff when the county was organized. Later he returned to Albany, Georgia, and became the sheriff in his home county, only to be killed by a prisoner.

R. C. Crane, historian of Sweetwater, tells the story of one of the early teachers in the Sweetwater school. The teacher was a large, robust man of plain, vigorous speech. Sometimes it was necessary for him to bring his six-shooter into the school room and place it on his desk. Some of his overgrown pupils also carried guns.

This teacher once went to Colorado City, famed cowtown of the early days, and there consulted a phrenologist, who told him that he was missing his calling by teaching school. He simply was not cut out for this, but was particularly fitted for a newspaper writer and editor. The schoolmaster

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CACTUS HOTEL ANNEX

SAN ANGELO, TEXAS

immediately quit the school room and entered the newspaper field. That fall he was elected justice of the peace and oldtimers of the area still like to tell of some of the forthright opinions delivered from the bench by this ex-teacher.

Many men after teaching school for years abandoned the classroom. An interesting example of this was J. Warren Hunter, who, from 1877 to 1891, taught in the rural schools in Gillespie, Mason, McCulloch and Menard Counties. As a youth he had no opportunity to gain an education. His wife, who was a schoolteacher, taught him to write an expert hand, to read extensively and to become a master in arithmetic. Students from his schools became successful in all walks of life.

In 1891 Hunter forsook the school room and purchased the Menardville Record. From that time until his death in 1915 in San Angelo he was successful in newspaper work. His masterful writings in Texas history were a decided contribution. His son and pupil, J. Marvin Hunter of Bandera, followed his father's footsteps in the newspaper business and his laudable achievements in publishing Frontier Times have been of untold value in the study of Texas history.

Joseph Latham was born in Blanco County in 1865. As a boy he experienced all the thrills of Indian fighting, hunting and handling horses and cattle. Later the family moved to Llano County and there young Latham attended school and then became the teacher. But he remained a cowboy at heart and at the end of his first term he was easily persuaded

to go up the trail with a herd of longhorns to Kansas.

After returning to Texas he clerked in stores and taught several terms in Llano County. In 1897 he went to Carlsbad, New Mexico, and began teaching there. Quitting the school room, he ranched several years in

New Mexico, Oklahoma and South Dakota. He then returned to New Mexico and served as chief of police in Alamogordo for 12 years.

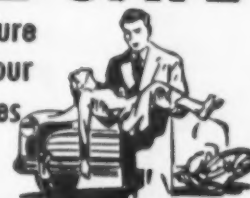
He learned how to ride a horse, use a gun and rope, and how to handle cattle. Little wonder the school room (Continued on page 44)



Early one afternoon some of the pupils reported that horsemen were approaching the school building.

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## Pioneer Teacher

(Continued from page 43)

was tame to such a boy, and that he could not long resist the lure of the active life of the cowboy. Even the teachers were unable to resist the appeal of an active life in the open.

In all fairness and in order to keep the record straight, it must be stated that not all teachers, or ex-schoolteachers, were models of propriety. For example, John Wesley Hardin taught school in his younger days. Charles J. Finger, noted western writer who spent considerable time in the San Angelo country in the 1880's, related that one West Texas schoolteacher became associated with the Black Jack Ketchum gang of outlaws. This ex-teacher was said to have gained further notoriety by becoming the very first in history to hold up a train singlehanded.

Not too many years ago a man who spent several years teaching in a West Texas school and was highly respected in the community was convicted of kidnapping a wealthy citizen of one of our large cities. While being held in jail in San Angelo he led a spectacular jail break which made him front-page newspaper material, a feat almost

impossible for teachers to get in their regular line of duty in the classroom.

Judging from the rapid turnover of teachers and the large number who taught school until they got in something better, one might logically conclude there was truth in the statement that those who can, do; those who cannot, teach. Even among older teachers today it is commonly said that most teachers have sense enough to quit while young enough to get into something else. Then there are those noble-minded teachers who LOVE teaching.

### Good Old Days Not Mourned

Austin Callan, pioneer West Texas newspaper writer, remarks that longing for the good old days is like relapsing with the measles. Nobody wants the good old days, certainly not in the field of education.

The men and women who honestly and fearlessly taught the three R's and the golden rule in all the West Texas communities should be given their due. Tribute should be paid to them for their work in laying the foundation for our public schools. They gave their best to the youth of their day. They perhaps had no courses in psychology, recreation or "progressive education." The pioneer teachers did know how to deal with delinquent boys. They did teacher their "scholars" to read, write, spell and to solve the problems in arithmetic. Can any teacher do a better task?

Without fear or favor the pioneer teacher usually performed his duty as he saw it. He could well serve as a

model to the present-day teacher and so-called administrator. The pioneer teacher did his share in the development of West Texas.

## WOOL WEEK FEATURED IN SOUTH CAROLINA

AS A feature of South Carolina's Wool Week held in Charleston, R. W. Willis of McMinnville traveled to Charleston to present an all-wool overcoat to the Charleston Museum, said to be the nation's oldest. The coat, worn continuously by Mr. Willis since 1902, was manufactured by the American Woolen Company, which firm, now Amerotron Corporation, presented him with a brand-new all-wool topcoat.

The celebration of Wool Week was quite an event, with exhibits from leading wool mills, fashion shows, a Wool Princess pageant and a Wool Ball. Young women from all over the South vied for the title of "Wool Princess."

Mrs. V. G. Tisdale has leased the V. G. Tisdale Mesquite Ranch east of Eldorado to Gerald and Patsy Hartgraves. Patsy Hartgraves is Mrs. Tisdale's granddaughter. The ranch has been in the Tisdale family since 1898. Mrs. Tisdale also sold to the Hartgraves the herd of Angus cattle which the late V. G. Tisdale had bred during the past 45 years. Also sold were the sheep on the place. Mrs. Tisdale retained a small herd of registered cattle.



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## HERE ARE SOME OF THE ANSWERS ABOUT WHAT THE ANGORA RAISER DOES



# Angora Goat Study

By ALTON W. TIEKEN  
Graduate Assistant  
Department of Agricultural Economics  
Texas A&M College

THE DEPARTMENT of Agricultural Economics and Sociology of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station started a study of the Texas goat industry in August, 1955.

A questionnaire was mailed to 5,231 ranchers living in the goat-producing area. A total of 1,877, or 35.88 per cent, replies were received from 40 different counties, representing the small, medium and large goat producers of Texas. Information was collected from goat raisers on range practices, goat and mohair production, disease and parasites, and marketing procedures of goats. These replies will be used as a part in the economic analysis of the whole goat industry.

Some preliminary and unofficial facts and figures that were found in the early stages of the study and some results of the answers that were received can be presented at this time.

Approximately 20 per cent of the ranchers who replied either had no goats at all or had gone out of the goat business. Of the ranchers that have goats as part of their enterprise, 52 per cent say they expect one-fourth to one-half of their ranch income to come from goats. Almost all ranchers run some other type of livestock on their range. Many have both cattle and sheep with their goats, while others run goats with only one other type of livestock.

About one-half of the ranchers reported that they had from 50 to 400 goats. Due to the past range conditions most goat producers were forced to cut the number of goats they had on hand. The condition of the range is the primary factor in determining the number of goats to keep on the range; however, mohair prices and goats prices also have some influence.

More than one-half of the producers expect from 70 to 90 kids from 100 does. The majority of the ranchers keep from 50 to 100 per cent of their kid crop, depending on type of operation, condition of the present herd, condition of the range and the price of goats. About 25 per cent of the producers run one buck for every 45 does and approximately 33 per cent have one buck for every 35 does. The question of how to kid the does is still not solved. Approximately 50 per cent of the goat raisers

kid their does loose on the range, while the other 50 per cent have their does in traps at kidding time.

Results such as these will not be news to many ranchers, but they will give them a chance to compare their operations with the operations of others. After completion of the final study of range operations, marketing procedures and marketing returns, we hope to provide necessary answers for improved practices in the Texas goat industry.

Editor's Note: Mr. Tieken also wrote as follows: "After looking over the answers, I would say 97 per cent of the people who answered subscribe to the Sheep and Goat Raiser magazine."

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# Sheep and Goats Around the World

By L. J. HORLACHER  
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Immediately my curiosity was aroused. So I asked him if sheep in all parts of Brazil were like that. He then gave me the following information about sheep and goats in Brazil, which he said is the country of the future.

In all Brazil there are about 20 million sheep. Fifteen million of these are in the state of Rio Grande Do Sul, adjacent to Argentina and Uruguay. The principal breeds are Lincoln, Merino, Romney, Rambouillet and Merino-Rambouillet crosses. Artificial insemination is practiced extensively. The government has selected rams on scattered farms known as insemination posts. Natural grasses make up most of the pastures, although there are some artificial pastures. Sheep and cows graze together. Cows eat the tall, coarse grains while

sheep eat the lower grasses. Ordinarily 80 cows and 200 sheep can be grazed on 180 acres.

Wool is the principal product and it is sold for export. The average fleece weight is six pounds. All sheep are sheared by machine. Sheep intended for slaughter sometimes are fed alfalfa and corn and then they are sold to United States and English packers. The typical farm runs from 500 to 1,000 sheep. There are few goats in Brazil.

Bolivia lies west of Brazil. My friend from Bolivia told me that most of the sheep in his country are unimproved natives. The Indians raise them for wool and for meat. However, some of the big farms have improved sheep and good pastures. Lincolns and Merinos predominate. Most of the Indian sheep produce white wool. It is woven into cloth and is made into clothing and rugs. There are few goats and these are found mostly in the mountains. They are used for meat and are poor milkers.

Next I turned to my friend from Formosa. "What about your country? Do you have many sheep on the island?" "No," he answered, "and the few sheep we have are at the experiment station where they are used for feeding tests. They are Hampshires. But our farmers will not raise sheep." Then he went on to tell me that part of his country abounds with goats. There are a few black goats and many white goats. All of the people eat goat meat, including the

skin. They have no use for the hair. Goats are kept in the barn at night and during the day they are taken out for grazing on leaves and grass. Children do the herding. Sometimes the sheep are fed rice bran and fresh sweet potatoes. There are on the island about 130,000 goats, with more than 40,000 in the one prefecture of Yunglin, in the middle western part. On the other hand, the prefecture of Kilung, in the north, has only 80 goats.

"In the Philippines we have a few sheep and many goats." So spoke my friend from that country. Goats are kept by many people for both meat and milk. Small children drink goat milk. The principal breeds are Toggenburg, Saanen and Anglo-Nubian. The bucks of these breeds are bred to native does and great improvement results. The improved goats are kept in breeding stations for public use. They are loaned to farmers through the extension bureau. In addition to soiling crops consisting of native grasses the bucks are sometimes fed cornmeal, soybean meal and rice bran.

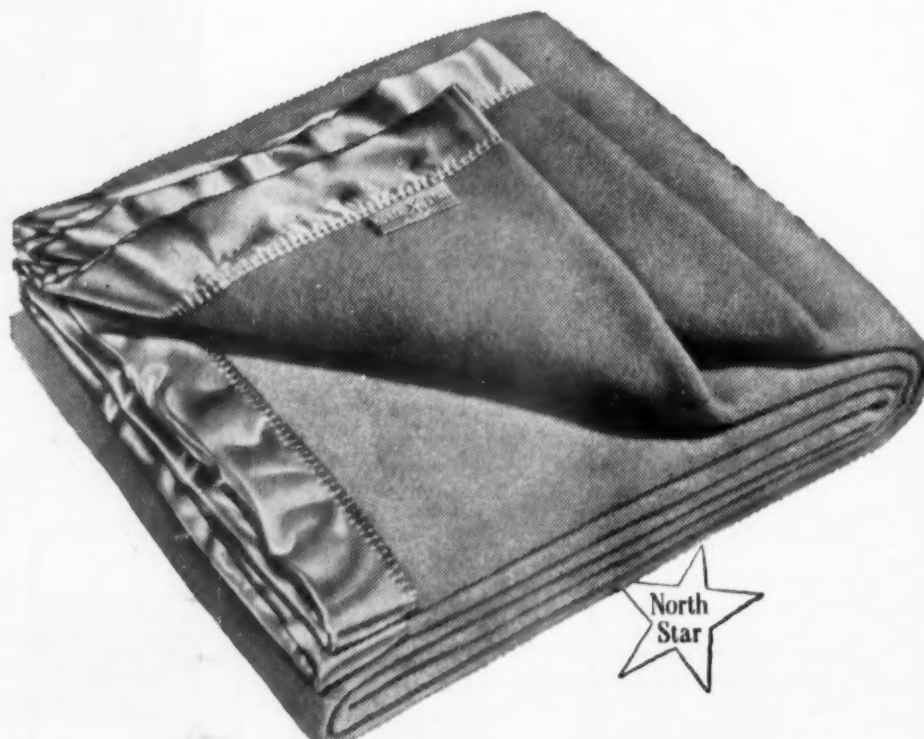
Merino sheep have been imported to some areas. The native sheep are used for mutton. In Mindinao they are kept as a hobby and must be entirely self-supporting. They eat any kind of grass or shrub. The Moros, being Moslem, do not eat pork, but eat the meat of sheep and goats. One popular way of cooking goat meat is to roast it over an open fire with the skin on. Or it may be boiled with

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spices, onions, red peppers, pimentos, garlic, curry, bay leaf, potatoes, and peas. The skin of the goat is used for bags, drums, shoes, belts, and so on.

Not far from the Philippines is Thailand. My friend from Thailand told me that his country has few sheep and more goats. These few sheep are mongrels, and are kept at the experiment stations for veterinary studies. Goats are raised for meat and milk. The Saanen was introduced about five years ago. Meat goats are raised by the Moslems and the Indians and the hair is no good. Not many people have milk goats, and those are mostly near the large towns. There are few in smaller towns, and none in rural areas. The goats eat every plant but get most of their nourishment from native grasses, legumes, trees and shrubs. Sometimes they are fed rice bran, boiled rice, fish meal, copra meal, molasses, soybean cake, and cassava. The skin is used for drums, shoes, purses, brief cases and belts.

It was with much anticipation that I turned to my friend from Iran. Recently I was in his country for almost a year. I observed the fat-tailed sheep that have existed in that part of the world for more than 5,000 years. I also saw the black goats, sometimes referred to as the scourge of the Middle East. I asked him what he thought about the attempt to change the character of the wool by crossing the native sheep with Rambouillets. He said that about 20 years ago his government started importing Ram-

bouillets, first from France, then from Russia, and more recently from Texas. The object is to produce wool of finer quality for the making of cloth. He said that he believes the results are satisfactory. The crossbred is more in demand for export, though Russia has been satisfied with the coarse carpet wool for the manufacture of military blankets and uniforms.

"The people of Iran like mutton best of all meats. The tail is very valuable as a cooking fat. Next we like the meat of the calf, and third is the meat of the goat." It is his opinion that unless cheap cooking fat can be made available from other sources, the people must continue to produce fat-tailed sheep. Hay and grasses are fed to sheep. The migratory tribes take their sheep to the good mountain pastures in summer and return to the desert for winter.

According to my friend, "Most farmers raise goats, but the government does not like to have the numbers increase. Goats eat anything."

He went on to tell me that goat milk is made into cheese and butter. Milk is mixed with rice for food. Sometimes milk is boiled, sugar added, and it is eaten with bread. Sheep and cows are much more expensive to keep than goats and that is the reason why so many keep goats. In the Meshed area there are many Cashmere goats. The hair is made into shawls and comforters. The hair of the black goats is made into cheap rugs, mittens, socks, gloves, and cloth.



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## A Great Friend of the Livestock Industry To Retire

THE SHEEP and goat industry and the general livestock industry is honoring a great friend. He is J. M. Jones, professor of animal husbandry, Texas A&M College, who is retiring from active work. His service to the sheep and goat industry has been of incalculable value and his efforts have earned for him the admiration and respect of countless friends.

J. M. Jones was born in Albany County, Wyoming, May 25, 1886. He worked as a cowboy on Wyoming ranches and received a B.S. degree from the University of Wyoming in 1907 and in agriculture in 1911. He

received an A.M. degree in agriculture for animal breeding work from the University of Missouri in 1912.

After experimental work in the New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station, he was employed in Texas as animal husbandryman for the Texas Experiment Station. In 1918 he was made chief of animal husbandry and in 1924 chief of the division of range animal husbandry, where he served until 1947.

Texas sheep and goat men know him for his very capable work and enthusiastic efforts in initiating the establishment of the Ranch Experiment Station, Substation 14, Sonora, and carrying on research work in breeding problems and management studies. His early work for the first time revealed that smooth-bodied Rambouillets carrying a dense staple fleece produce as much or more clean wool than the B type or wrinkled Rambouillets. These studies initiated a different trend in sheep crossing practices, not only in this state but in others.

Mr. Jones also headed work in studying the effects of age, sex and fertility of Angora goats on the quality and quantity of mohair.

Through his efforts and sugges-

tions the establishment of a research wool scouring and grading plant was placed in operation in 1921 and under his supervision operated until 1947. Wool scouring research is credited with reducing the average estimates of shrinkage of Texas wools five to six per cent, resulting in greatly increased returns to Texas wool producers.

In addition to work with sheep, goats, wool and mohair he has conducted research on cattle and sheep feeding problem from 1915 to date. This work has been conducted at numerous substations as at Spur, Big Spring, Balmorhea, Beeville, Temple, Amarillo, Ysleta and other locations. Field trials were also conducted at locations as at the King Ranch, Kingsville, Texas, and the Callaghan Ranch, Encinal, Texas. His early work showed that grain sorghum grains have much the same value as corn in fattening rations and definitely contributed to an increase in market price for such grains. He contributed to the field of information on creep feeding of range calves, methods of supplying phosphorus to range cattle, the carotene requirements of fattening steers, the preparation of milo grain and seasonal limits of use of native and seeded grasses. The results of his feeding work have afforded Texas stockmen a rather clear understanding of the utility of common feeding stuffs and practical methods of feeding.

He is the author or co-author of



J. M. JONES

more than 100 technical bulletins or papers dealing with the breeding and feeding of cattle and sheep and various phases of wool and mohair production. He has published numerous popular articles in the leading farm and livestock magazines.

He has served as a livestock judge at numerous shows over a period of years and has been superintendent of sheep at the Fort Worth Fat Stock Show for more than 30 years. He is an active member of the American Society of Animal Production, American Genetics Association and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

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## Mistletoe . . . A Favored Christmas Emblem

By JEWELL CASEY

THE MISCHIEVOUS mistletoe, considered a pest in many areas, has a long and colorful history, interwoven in poetry, superstition and mysticism. One of several of the sacred plants of the ancient Druids, the mistletoe was known to them as the "heal-all" plant. It was supposed to have great curative powers, especially valued as an antidote for poisons. Because of its parasitic growth, and its cannibalistic nature, the Britons considered the mistletoe a magic plant indeed.

The ancients held that in each plant there was some visible indication of the part of the human body whose disease it was designed to cure. Due to the fact the mistletoe always grew downwards it was marked as a specific cure for "falling sickness," as well as several other ailments.

One explanation of the custom of kissing 'neath the mistletoe goes back to the ancient celebrations of the Druids, at which time twigs of mistletoe were hung over doors, giving assurance of welcome and shelter to anyone who might enter.

Eventually the mistletoe came to be regarded as a symbol of peace, and opposing warriors meeting beneath it would call a truce for 24 hours.

Another theory is the prevalent custom of exchanging kisses under the mistletoe during Christmas season owes its origin to the old Norse legend of Balder. Frigga, mother of Balder, gave her son a charm which protected him from all harm from everything which came from fire, water, air and earth. Loki, an evil spirit, fashioned an arrow from mistletoe, which did not grow from any of the



There is an old legend to the effect that the mistletoe had never produced fruit until that first memorable Christmas. When the Wise Men laid their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh at the feet of the Holy Infant, the gracious mistletoe, catching up the radiance from the guiding star, made its own offering of countless pearls, symbolic of purity and peace, and since then — about the Christmas season — comes into fruitage.

elements, and with it struck Balder to the ground. Although severely wounded, Balder recovered and in gratefulness for the recovery of her son, Frigga bestowed a kiss upon everyone passing under the mistletoe.

"Wood of the Sacred Cross" was the name bestowed upon the mistletoe by an old monk herbalist, for this reason: At one time, long ago, the mistletoe was not only the most handsome, but the sturdiest tree throughout the forest, not at all like the parasitic plant it is today. Because its wood was so strong the mistletoe was selected to furnish the cross upon which our Lord was crucified. Afterwards, so saddened because of the part it had played in the world's greatest tragedy, the majestic tree shrank away until it could no longer stand alone, but must be dependent ever afterwards upon some other plant for its existence.

Monks of old not only drank waters in which mistletoe had been steeped, but ate the pieces of wood. They wore sprigs of the mystic plant around their necks to ward off disease.

The early Christians highly regarded the mistletoe and saw in the white berries the symbol of the purity of Christ, and the evergreen leaves symbolized the everlasting life of our Savior.

Welsh farmers gathered sprays of mistletoe when in full berries, believing it would bring good luck to infants when placed in their cradles.

The botanic name, "pharadendron," meaning "tree thief," comes from the plant's habit of "stealing" the sap of the tree upon which it grows. Some authorities contend we get the word "mistletoe" from the missel thrush, a messenger of the gods who brought the mystic plant down to the earth. The Saxons called the plant "mistltan," meaning different twig, not the same as the tree upon which it grew.

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## Statewide Wool and Mohair Show Scheduled for San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO'S growing livestock exposition and rodeo will be the scene of the first major statewide wool and mohair show, it was revealed with the announcement that a huge new sheep and goat barn will be constructed at the Bexar County Coliseum grounds.

E. W. Bickett, exposition president, announced the 50,400-square-foot barn will provide 500 sheep and goat pens and will make it possible to move these divisions indoors from the tents they have been occupying the past six years.

The barn will be completed in ample time for the seventh annual stock show and rodeo, to be held at the Coliseum February 10-19.

The San Antonio exposition's sheep and lamb shows have become among the largest in the nation. This year, it is expected, the entry records will be shattered. Influencing the entry increase, show officials stated, is the fact that this year San Antonio has added three new sheep divisions and also will follow immediately after the Fort Worth show. In past years the local exposition followed Houston, and came last on the circuit of major Texas shows.

While wool and mohair shows have been held on a purely local basis at some county livestock shows, none has heretofore been held on a statewide basis. San Antonio will take advantage of the facilities offered in its new barn to stage the first such event on an all-Texas scope.

Bickett made known that some top

experts on sheep and goats have been consulted in planning for the new barn, including J. A. Gray, Texas extension service animal husbandryman in charge of sheep and goat research.

The stock show president emphasized the importance of the planned new show by pointing out that in normal times Texas produces 20 per cent of the sheep in the nation and 90 per cent of the Angora goats.

The new barn is to be 280 feet long and 180 feet wide. The pens will be six by nine feet and adjustable. Walks will be six feet wide and there will be two nine-foot driveways through the structure.

There will be a judging and auction area and special exhibit area for the wool and mohair show.

Roy Woodress of Millersview recently sold some 800 70-pound mixed lambs to Jack Canning of Eden at 16½ cents a pound.

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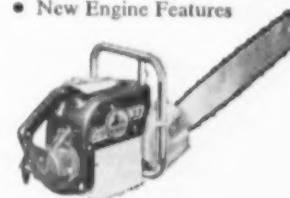
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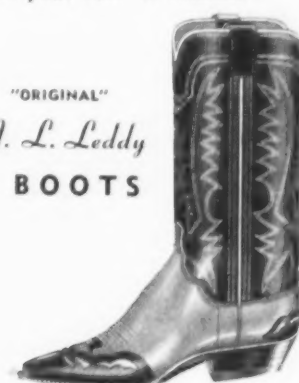
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## The Sheep Industry's Newest Born

By J. M. JONES\*

Secretary

American Sheep Producers Council, Inc.  
Denver, Colorado

THE EYES of agriculture and the interested segments are all focused on the domestic sheep industry's newborn child — the American Sheep Producers Council, Inc.

This infant lives in a glass house for all to see and comment on. What form will it take? How will it react to stimuli? Will it grow into a worthwhile adjunct of its parent — the American sheep producer? These and many other questions are being asked, not only by the parent but agriculture generally.

This child upon which agricultural eyes are now focused was conceived in 1953. Many well-laid plans were made for its arrival. The passage of the National Wool Act of 1954 established its legitimacy, and the interested producer-parents breathed real life into the endeavor through the referendum vote held last summer. This child passed the crisis when Secretary Benson activated Section 708 of the Wool Act on September 12, 1955.

Since that time a great deal of thought and effort has been put into the project to make this infant a healthy and worthwhile entity to the public and to the sheep industry.

Surely all realize that it is going through the stages of "growing pains." At this point it is unable to feed itself, but is being fed and developed through the efforts of its board of directors. A line of credit of \$250,000 has been secured for an intermediate program prior to the time that the regular funds will be available. By the summer of 1956 it is hoped that a great deal of knowledge will have been secured to help this progeny on its way.

During this period it will be necessary to find out how well this child is adjusted to society. That is one reason why the Department of Agriculture is assisting on product research, on questions of lamb distribution, consumer acceptability, and availability in retail stores. Wool will also come in for its part in the development of a well-rounded entity.

This is one reason why the Council is meeting with all interested segments of the industry. The success of this venture requires the wholehearted cooperation of the packers, the retailers — both chain and independents — the restaurant and hotel people, the transportation segments, the consumer, the public at large, and most of all the PRODUCER. The industry is asking all these segments to offer suggestions, criticisms, and to give the benefit of their experience to this adolescent child.

The parents of this child, the PRODUCERS, have a particularly important job. There is a clearly defined set of objectives and purposes laid out to accomplish the desired results. The attitudes and responses of the parents are very important to a healthy offspring.

These parent-producers must exercise patience and understand the problems with which the American Sheep Producers Council is confronted; they must be critical but constructively so; they must be stern in order that this child is directed in the proper channels; they must have confidence and defend the Council against those who, for some reason or another, should like to see this project fail; and they must be missionaries, sufficiently acquainted with the purposes and objectives so that they may bring others to a better understanding of why the proper development of the Council is so important to the sheep industry — an industry which has long traveled a rough and rocky road.

The economic problems of the industry are well known. Efforts to relieve these problems have been made by all who have had the welfare of the industry at heart. However, now is the time for everyone to take a broad view and to exercise these parental virtues of understanding, constructive criticism, sternness properly directed and confidence in the Council, so that its future may have a fair opportunity of producing benefits to the industry.

No one has ever said that this is the ultimate answer to the industry's problems, but I am sure that it can be proved without doubt that the efforts now initiated are PROGRESS, and can reach fruition with everyone's help and guidance.

### HATS OFF

WE CONGRATULATE Frank, Jack and Bill Roddie on their new enterprise, the Roddie Wool Scouring Company, Inc., of Brady, Texas. This wool scouring plant with a capacity of around 25,000 pounds of grease wool daily is now in operation. It is a plant that has been sorely needed in West Texas for many years — a service to the wool industry of Texas which should be of cumulative benefit. Our best wishes and we feel that those of the entire wool industry go to the Roddies.

W. L. (Tom) Davis of Sonora, Texas, has sold a stud ram to Roy M. Kothmann, Uvalde, Texas. Mr. Davis writes that the ram is to be used in 4-H work. Mr. Kothmann is giving him to the 4-H Club.

\*Mr. Jones is immediate past secretary of the National Wool Growers Association. He resigned last month.

## National Wool Growers To Meet in Fort Worth

MEMBERS OF the National Wool Growers Association will take a winter trip to the sunny Southwest climate of Fort Worth to hold their 91st annual convention on January 23, 24, 25 and 26. Convention headquarters will be the Hotel Texas.

John H. Breckenridge, Twin Falls, Idaho, president of the National Wool Growers Association, has promised an informative and enjoyable program for those attending the convention.

Authoritative and educational panels are presently being organized for the general convention sessions, according to Breckenridge. They will delve into such pertinent matters as lamb and wool marketing problems and sheepmen will be given ample opportunity to ask questions from the floor. Panels will include well-informed wool and lamb industry speakers and government officials.

Heading the list of convention speakers will be Texas Congressman W. R. Poage.

The Women's Auxiliary to the National Wool Growers Association is also planning an enjoyable program for their members. One entertainment feature slated for women attending the convention will be a conducted tour to Dallas where the ladies will visit the famous Neiman-Marcus Southwest fashion center.

Highlight of auxiliary activities will be the annual "Make It Yourself with Wool" fashion show, when sewing contest winners from 15 states compete for the national contest championship and a trip to Europe. National champions will be crowned in junior and senior divisions.

Miss Wool of Texas will also model her all-wool wardrobe as part of the annual fashion show.

Climaxing the entertainment roster for convention delegates and their wives will be a social hour, a banquet, floor show and dance on the final evening of the convention, Thursday, January 26.

## Big Money Offered at Houston

A STACK of dollar bills as high as a Texas oil derrick, in cash prizes and special awards, will line the billfolds of winning exhibitors and participants of the 1956 Houston Fat Stock Show, February 22 through March 4.

They amount to an estimated grand total of \$189,744.50, including \$11,741 for the sheep and goats alone.

Ten breeds of sheep will share the \$6,380 allotted the open breeding classes. They are Rambouillet, Corriedale, Hampshire, Shropshire, Suffolk, Southdown, Delaine-Merino, Cheviot, Columbia and Montadale. Special awards of \$50 each are offered the Corriedale and Hampshire classes and \$105 for the Suffolks.

Fat wether (open class) classes for Rambouillet, Southdown, Shropshire, Hampshire, Suffolk, Delaine-Merino, Corriedale, Cheviot and crossbred are listed at \$44 each, with the exception of the Hampshire breed, which has a special award of \$49.

Angora goats will be shown for the second year at the Houston show. Prize money amounts to \$1,010 with equal premiums for Type B (flat locks) and Type C (ringlets), with special premiums of \$45 for each class.

In the junior sheep department fat lambs will share \$952. The breeding classes, including Rambouillet, Delaine-Merino, Southdown, Suffolk, Corriedale, Hampshire and Shropshire, will collect a total of \$2,954.

In addition the 4-H Club boys and girls and Future Farmers of America will take home thousands from the market lamb auction sale. Last year's sale gave the youngsters \$28,790, including the champions.

Entry deadline for sheep is December 15. The order of the show has been reversed this year so that

open class breeding sheep and goats will be shown the first half of the show, February 22-26, and the junior market entries to be exhibited February 27 to March 4.

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# Conservation-Wise

By BILL ALLRED  
Soil Conservation Service

THIS NATION'S USDA yearbooks have provided much information that has been helpful to the using public. Many believe that the yearbook's "Soils and Men," "Climate and Man," and "Grass" are truly great books in the field of American agriculture.

To this select group can be added the 1955 USDA yearbook, "Water," which has just been released.

In the yearbook preface the editor, Alfred D. Stefferud, makes the following observations: "There's a lot to be known about water. We know the symbol of water but little about its properties, which can make us comfortable or uncomfortable, rich or poor, secure or insecure. We cannot live without water; we could live better if we knew more about it."

The yearbook, "Water," contains the greatest amount of useful information on water that has ever been assembled into one volume. There are 751 pages and 95 topics have been covered by the best talent available in the United States Department of Agriculture. These scientists have concentrated on the following broad subjects on water:

Our Need for Water; Where We Get Our Water; Water and Our Soil; Water and Our Forests; Water for Irrigation; Water and Our Crops; Our Ranges and Pastures; Gardens, Turf and Orchards; Drainage of Fields; Water and Our Wildlife; Pure Water for Farms and Cities; A Look to the Future.

A large part of the text is directed toward the conservation aspects of water. There's much excellent material on water conservation problems and practices for land used for crops, range, forest and wildlife. Watersheds—big and little—are highlighted and discussions cover matters of legislation, laws and programs for conserva-

tion treatment, including flood control and watershed management.

There's some information on different types of flood damage that is not generally known. For instance, the average upstream damage is about 545 million dollars annually. Sediment damages also amount to 100 to 130 million dollars a year.

A big part of the damages in headwater valleys is agricultural—nearly 70 per cent of the total. About 45 per cent of the damage is to growing crops, pasture and range. Damage to land in the valleys is highly significant from the viewpoint of total agricultural resources, because the land in the flood plains of creeks and rivers usually is highly productive. Destruction of agricultural property along upstream areas is about 15 per cent yearly.

Annual destruction in major river valleys is approximately 500 million dollars, of which 165 million is agricultural damage. Downstream sediment damage is about 28 to 30 million dollars a year. Sediment damages usually are non-agricultural.

There's little on the subject of water that the yearbook "Water" fails to cover at least in some degree. If you go in for water-witching there is a chapter that will interest you. It was written by a practicing dowser who vouches for his work.

John T. Williams, Sanderson ranchman, suffered a heart attack on November 12 at the TCU-Texas football game at Austin. He is reported to be improving. A past president of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association, Mr. Williams owns the Sanderson Wool and Mohair Commission Company, Sanderson, and the Big Bend Wool and Mohair Company in Alpine.

Ray Wyatt, manager of the Bandera County Ranchers and Farmers Association, reports that the early November snow and rain ranged up to two inches in Medina County and that adjacent counties also got good moisture that in the following warm

weather brought up both grass and oats. "We need more rain now," he declared the last of November.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Hartgrove of Eldorado have leased the 3,840-acre ranch of the late V. G. (Virge) Tisdale.

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By MRS. RUSSELL G. HARLOW

REGISTERED Rambouillet breeders who have recently become active members of the American Rambouillet Sheep Breeders Association include J. J. and Bob Burditt, Leakey, Texas; William E. Archibald, Gillette, Wyoming; Hilmar F. and Rennie Guenther, New Braunfels, Texas; John H. Stadler, Jr., Del Rio, Texas; Hazen and Stephen George, Douglas, Wyoming, and C. C. McBurnett, San Angelo, Texas.

Hilmar F. Guenther, new member from New Braunfels, reports that he has owned sheep since he was a kid, but had never seen very many Rambouillets until last year's San Angelo show and a few fairs. He liked them so well he bought a few as a sort of trial. After he'd had them a week he decided to sell his other registered sheep, except for his son Rennie's fine show flock, and buy more Rambouillets. He says his Rambouillets are better feeders and get fat twice as fast. He also reports, "There are no Rambouillets whatever in this neck of the woods, but I think I can convince a few people to try them . . . and I'm sure after a trial they will get started here."

Dr. C. J. Koerth, Junction, Texas, has purchased two stud rams from Tommy Heffernan, also of Junction.

O. Sudduth, Eldorado, Texas, has sold six registered rams to Frank Fish of Juno, Texas.

Ovey Taliaferro, Eden, Texas, recently sold two registered ram lambs each to Mrs. W. C. Fuller, Paint

Rock, Texas; T. L. Hanley, Bangs, Texas, and H. R. Speer, Kempner, Texas.

Glenn Maddux, association member of Bakersfield, California, made it a clean sweep at the recent Grand National Livestock Exposition, held at the Cow Palace in San Francisco, California, taking all championships and all first-place ribbons in the Rambouillet division. Judge was Dr. J. C. Miller, head of the animal husbandry department at A&M College of Texas. At the Golden Spike National Livestock Show at Ogden, Utah, Mr. Maddux also won both champion and reserve champion ram and ewe, and all first-place awards with the exception of two; College of Southern Utah at Cedar City took first-place two-year-old ewe and first-place flock.

Goodrum Brothers, Roswell, New Mexico, have sold 10 registered ewes and a stud ram to Jack Harris, also of Roswell.

Mrs. Rodney I. Port, Sundance, Wyoming, was recently elected president of the Wyoming Wool Growers Auxiliary. She had served as secretary-treasurer of the Auxiliary for the past four years. Dr. Port, her husband, is director of District 5 of the American Rambouillet Sheep Breeders Association.

B. F. Bridges & Son, Bronte, Texas, have sold five registered rams to L. R. Spire, Buck Horn, New Mexico.

John K. Madsen Rambouillet Farms, Mt. Pleasant, Utah, purchased the top-selling Rambouillet ram at the 13th annual Craig (Colorado) Ram Sale. They paid \$110 for a stud consigned by Mrs. Ilo V. Irwin of Buena Vista, Colorado. Mrs. Irwin also consigned the top pen of five Rambouillets, which sold for \$85.

L. A. Wilbanks, Ballinger, Texas, has purchased 26 registered ewes from Paul F. Thomas of Fabens, Texas.

Dr. W. G. Kammlade, Jr., of Carbondale, Illinois, will judge Rambouillet breeding sheep at the International Livestock Exposition at Chicago this year.

Dr. W. T. Hardy, superintendent

of the Ranch Experiment Station at Sonora, Texas, writes that the rams on test at the station "have done very well so far during this test year and we are especially pleased with the response to feed the past 28-day period. We are also jubilant over the fact that since the first warm-up week there has not been any incidence of sickness or disease troubles. All sheep originally put on test are doing fine and we have had some wonderful weather to feed sheep." Dr. Hardy extends an invitation to anyone interested to attend the next Weigh Day on December 9. Cooperators this year include Leo and Rod Richardson, Iraan; Mrs. H. C. Noelke, Jr., Sheffield; O. Sudduth, Eldorado; Pat Rose, Jr., Del Rio; W. L. (Tom) Davis, Sonora; E. G. Branch, Rankin; Clyde Thate, Burkett; Connie M. Locklin, Sonora; Roger Q. Landers, Menard; Don Cooper, Ozona; Miles Pierce, Alpine; the Ranch Experiment Station, Sonora, and the Experiment Station, McGregor, Texas.

O. F. Bryan, Ovalo, Texas, has sold a registered yearling ram to Victor LaBoa, Botkinburg, Arkansas.

P. H. Harris, Gladiola, New Mexico, topped the recent eighth annual Southeastern New Mexico Ram Growers Association sale at Roswell with a pen of five Rambouillet ram lambs. They sold to Mary Etcheverry, Lovington, New Mexico, for \$76 a head.

J. S. Alge, Arlington, Ohio, has sold six registered ewes to Paul Rehus, Van Buren, Ohio, and a stud ram to O. T. Seward of Harrogate, Tennessee.

Though perhaps a little early, we probably won't have another opportunity between now and Christmas. So from the office staff—a joyous Christmas and a prosperous 1956!

## NEW MEXICO RANCH SELLS TO WALKER

AN INTERESTING real estate deal took place recently when Roy Martin, San Angelo commission man and ranchman, and Sam Roberts of New Mexico, formerly of San Angelo, sold their ranch a few miles west and south of Magdalena, New Mexico. The land consisted of 30 sections, less 92 acres, or 11,520 acres of deeded land, and it was sold for \$126,700. This is \$11 an acre. The buyer was B. E. Walker, Fort Hancock, Texas.

Mr. Roberts declared that he and Mr. Martin felt they had sold the ranch too cheap, but pointed out that the land has made an amazing appreciation in the past 20 years. Two decades ago he said the land could have been bought for \$7,500. Seven years ago Roy Cleveland bought the ranch for \$45,000. Twenty months ago Roberts and Martin gave \$85,000 for the place, and on October 26 sold it for \$126,700.

Mr. Roberts has moved to Albuquerque and opened an office for the sale of real estate. Mr. Martin is continuing his livestock commission business out of San Angelo.

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# Texas Delaine News

By MRS. G. A. GLIMP

MANY SHEEP have been changing hands in the past few weeks. We are always glad to welcome new members to our association, and are very happy to note there are still people with faith in the industry and weather.

M. O. Rogers of Driftwood and Jim Lindeman of Leander recently purchased a number of ewes from Jim Fulton of Dripping Springs. We hope for them every success.

Elam Miles, FFA student of Star school, was selected to use the money appropriated by the Sears Foundation program to purchase breeding stock. This he has used to purchase eight young ewes from Joe LeMay. This program has been in progress for some time and operating most successfully among our Rambouillet friends. We feel that it can be equally successful in the Delaines. Most of us are familiar with the works of the program. The boy receiving the sheep passes along offspring from them until he replaces the sheep he has received. This gives another deserving boy a chance. We are very glad to see this program begin for the Delaine breeders and hope it will be a huge success, thus paving the way for many more chapters to receive money for making such purchases.

Mills County can again be congratulated for offering another good

Delaine breeding sheep show in its annual sale held each year in January. Every year this show expands, and we always feel we have begun the show circuits after attending this show. More news on boys and girls who will be showing Delaines, along with show dates, will be in the next issue. Everyone should mark the date and include it in their itinerary of major shows to attend.

We are hoping sincerely the junior breeders will bear in mind the fact that San Antonio has made it possible for more to show by offering the junior division. Do bear this in mind and make them feel the efforts they have put forth to secure this for you have been worthwhile.

Many breeders are lambing, and report they are having very good luck and their sheep are doing very good despite the fact that rain is needed so badly everywhere.

## Wolf!

The major factor to contend with in Burnet County is still the wolf situation. After trapping several, the professional killers have managed to elude any method devised for them and are still making it very difficult for some of the ranchers to maintain their flocks, let alone try to increase them. Losses have been tremendous.

They have killed every few days

for the past three or four months for Ellis Taylor, Bill Bryson, W. Sims and Ike Taylor have recently been the victims of the onslaught. A more rigid drive is being urged to rid the country of them, and at the present more drastic steps are being taken to see if this can be done.

Again let me urge you to get your lambs registered before January 1. This makes it much easier to get the volumes ready on time.

It hardly seems the Christmas season could be upon us again, yet it seems time truly marches on, and once more we have come to the time of year that should be so sacred to each of us—Christ's birthday. This is the one thing our atomic age does not change, so let us all give thanks that we are still a free nation and keep it thus.

May the age-old Christmas carols take on a new meaning as we sincerely sing "Peace on earth, good will toward men." We hope to see this become our aim in life as we march on with time. May each of you be blessed with peace and contentment and the New Year be a happy, prosperous one.

Frank Weed, Jr., ranchman and trader of Utopia, Texas, has sold a string of yearling does off his Crow ranch to Wright Wilson of Carrizo Springs at \$9 a head straight through. They were considered a top bunch of goats. Weed sold a load of young muttons to Bill Murrah of Del Rio

at \$6.50 a head. He also recently bought a load of stocker does and some mixed kids from Elmer Huffman off his Johnson City ranch at \$6.50 a head. He bought a load of stocker muttons from Burger Bros. of Hondo and a load from Alvin Hiedman of Utopia at \$6 a head. Weed sold for Ira Smith of Camp Wood a string of straight mutton kids at \$6.50 a head to Bill Murrah of Del Rio. Weed and Jimmy Hope of Uvalde have bought around 1,000 cattle in South Texas recently. About half of these were steers that will be wintered in the Eagle Pass country.

## COLUMBIA SHEEP SALE IS HELD

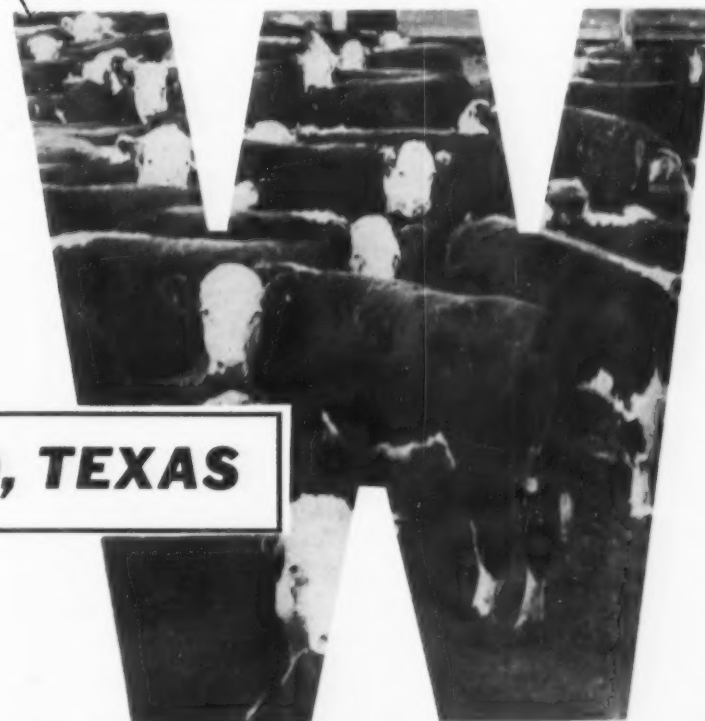
THE ELEVENTH National Columbia Show and Sale was held in Ogden, Utah, in early November. There were 24 consignors from nine states and 172 sheep were shown and sold. The champion ram, a yearling, consigned by Mark Bradford, Spanish Fork, Utah, sold for \$440. The reserve champion, consigned by Mrs. Bernice Oliver, Banner, Wyoming, sold for \$500 to Earl Cunningham, Sleepy Eye, Minnesota.

The average for 172 sheep shown was \$62.44. The 15 rams brought an average of \$164.33; 54 single ewes brought an average of \$61.62, and 103 ewes in pens an average of \$48.

The sale was held in one of the heaviest November blizzards Utah has known.



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# This Basic Ranch Tool Called Money

THERE ARE extreme contrasts in the way a ranch enterprise can be operated. There stands at one end of the scale what is sometimes called a "subsistence" operation. The opposite extreme is the highly "commercialized" ranch.

One of the most apparent contrasts between a "subsistence" and a "commercial" operator has to do with money. The subsistence operator is a live-at-home man, both for family living and for operations. Whether for food, feed or an axe handle, his first thought in meeting a need is to produce it himself. His expenses are low. But so is income, usually. He seldom gets familiar with the feel of dollars. On the other hand, he seldom goes "broke."

Modern, commercialized ranching is virtually synonymous with money. Everything flows through the pocketbook. Production is specialized and a high proportion is sold, rather than consumed. The operator's main objective is net profit, after taxes, just like the town merchant.

Most of the ranches in the Texas sheep and goat country are just such a commercialized operation. Yours is big, important business, and it takes big, continuous money. Your possibilities of profits are greater, but at the same time you can go broke quicker than ever before in history.

High among the requirements for profit-making in your highly commercialized operations is that of adequate capital. Today this usually involves credit. With the increasingly larger scales of operations that are needed for maximum efficiency, it has become more and more difficult for the average ranchman to finance operations from personal funds. This is reflected in the fact that the commercialization of agriculture has been facilitated by readily available capital banks, PCA's and other institutions at attractive rates of interest.

The ability to wisely use credit has become one of the prime requisites for successful management. Deciding on the amount, type and timing of credit are important ingredients. But of course, your final answer will always partially depend on your sense of values—your weighing the possibilities of profits against the hazards of the particular venture.

By TYRUS R. TIMM\*

Head, Department of Agricultural Economics and Sociology

and R. G. CHERRY\*

Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics  
Texas A&M College

## Debt Can Be a Blessing

Have you known individuals with an almost morbid fear of debt? Experiences in bygone days, when the combination of a poorly developed credit system and a highly unstable agriculture caused frequent and widespread financial disasters, may account for an extreme wariness by some in the use of credit. This is not to say that credit should not always be used with caution. But it can be extremely poor business to refuse the use of credit when an operation justifies it, simply to avoid debt.

Compared to these bygone days, the credit system and the ranch economy have both made remarkable progress. Results of a recent survey of the agricultural credit situation in a drouth area, in which many of you live, by the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, vividly demonstrates these advancements. The study was made in 10 counties of the Edwards Plateau, where extreme drouth conditions have prevailed for most of the past 10 years. No drouth of record has lasted so long nor has been so intense. How ranchmen have fared as compared with previous drouths was one of the questions considered.

In other Texas drouths the foremost public concern was for human distress—destitute people who were without means of helping themselves. The problem was to help the destitute find jobs; to aid them in moving to other areas; even to provide food and clothing for some. There was considerable local "charity." In the West Texas drouth of 1918, for instance, it is recorded, "Everywhere almost all of the tenant class have left the country, most of them for good . . . of the land-owning class, among farmers, about a fourth have left their families to care for local interests and have secured employ-

ment elsewhere—on the farms of Central and East Texas and in the shipyards."

This time, after nearly a decade of drouth conditions, there has been considerably less evidence of this kind of human distress, nor even of large numbers of people leaving the land. Public concern through this period has been for the maintaining of superior breeding herds, for the general economy of the area, and for the protection of land resources. The word "charity" has never been mentioned as a drouth-relief measure. Public aid mostly has been in the form of feed for the purpose of maintaining breeding herds. Private credit has been by far the major mode of sustaining operations when liquid assets of individual operators were dissipated.

Several reasons account for the ability of ranchmen to sustain themselves so well through such adversity, but adequate credit has been among the most important. There apparently has not been any crucial shortage of lendable funds in the area, and prevailing interest rates have been comparable to going rates in other areas.

As an indication of the role of credit, total agricultural debt in the 10 counties is estimated to have increased by about 70 per cent from 1950 to 1955, the increase being in the face of sharply reduced livestock inventories.

About 25 per cent of the operators studied have either mortgaged real estate or increased the amount of an existing mortgage during the five-year period.

As an interesting sidelight, 58 per cent of the operators reported that non-agricultural income—wages, mineral leases, rentals and royalties, etc.—had been a very important

means of financing through the drouth.

## Increasing Importance of Credit

All indications are that the importance of credit will continue to grow in the field of ranching. As one bit of speculation, some individuals think the time will come when creditors will loan to the large, highly commercialized operators with the expectation of little or no repayment of principal over the lifetime of the operator. Perhaps this will be a counterpart of some business-type loans today. For instance, Chrysler Corporation recently has borrowed \$100,000,000 for 99 years from insurance companies.

This type of loan for agriculture seems a little far-fetched at the present. But regardless of this development, agricultural credit will make further progress. It will become, therefore, an even more valuable asset of agriculture which will contribute mightily to greater efficiency and higher annual incomes of ranchmen.

\*Dr. Timm and Mr. Cherry have a major interest in the field of agricultural credit. Dr. Timm is a director of the Houston branch, Federal Reserve Bank, and is a member of the Agricultural Commission of the American Bankers Association. Mr. Cherry for several years now has been part of the college team conducting the Farm and Ranch Credit School for Commercial Bankers, and he heads up the research in agricultural finance.

## CLOUDT TO BOLLMAN INDUSTRIES

DENMAN CLOUDT of San Angelo, formerly representing Conant & Company, Boston wool merchants, has resigned to become assistant plant manager of the Bollman Industries of San Marcos. Carl Christman is manager.

The Bollman Industries is an expanding wool-scouring plant, and Mr. Cloudt, with a background of wool scouring training and buying, will assist in this work and the expansion program of the firm.

The Nelson Johnson sheep auction barn in northeast San Angelo has been purchased by Harvey Martin, livestock dealer, from Mrs. Johnson. He is turning the property into a sheep-feeding yard.

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# Christmas Greetings



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